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APR 5 - 1932

COUNTRY LIFE

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Advertisements for this column are accepted at the rate of 3d. per word prepaid (if Box Number used 6d. extra), and must reach this office not later than Monday morning for the coming week's issue.
All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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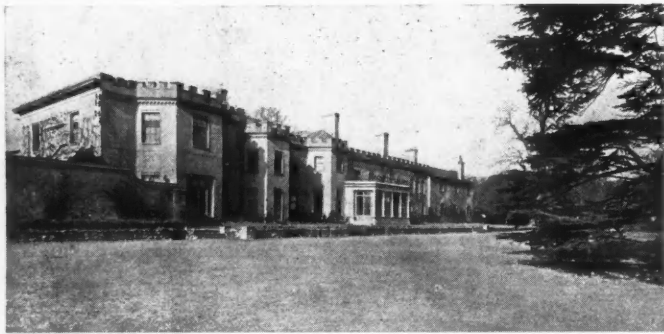
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(Knight, Frank and Rutley' advertisements continued on page iii.)

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(For continuation of advertisements see page viii.)

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In a good social part, three hours from Paddington and in direct line to the North.

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TO BE SOLD, FREEHOLD,

THIS REMARKABLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

with an area of

450 ACRES

OR LESS TO SUIT A PURCHASER.

THE ORIGINAL OLD HOUSE has had extensive additions of recent date and contains hall, three receptions and billiard room, fifteen bedrooms, three bathrooms.

Electric light. Central heating. Excellent water supply.

ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS. WOODLANDS.

FIRST-CLASS STABLING AND GARAGES. MODEL HOME FARM.

Also an area of downland affording

CAPITAL GALLOPS.

SEVERAL MODERN COTTAGES. ACCOMMODATION LANDS.

Agents, HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.



AT A MOST REASONABLE FIGURE.

BEAUTIFUL WEST SUSSEX

OWNER KEEN TO SELL.

AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE.

660 ACRES.

Compact, and for its size providing REALLY GOOD SHOOTING WITH HIGH BIRDS.

CHARMING OLD RESIDENCE,
remodelled within recent years and fitted with all modern conveniences.

HALL, THREE RECEPTION ROOMS. MOST CONVENIENT DOMESTIC OFFICES. THIRTEEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, THREE BATH-ROOMS, ETC.

Facing south, overlooking the Downs. Central heating, electric light, telephone.

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS.

SMALL HOME FARM. TWO FARMS LET. FOURTEEN COTTAGES.

Full particulars from the Agents, HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.



Offices : 20, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.1.

Telephone No.
Regent 4304.

OSBORN & MERCER

Telegraphic Address:
"Overbid-Piccy London."

"ALBEMARLE HOUSE," 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1

HERTFORDSHIRE

About a mile from both Sawbridgworth and Harlow Stations and about an hour from London.

THE PISHIOBURY PARK ESTATE

comprising

A DELIGHTFUL OLD RED BRICK RESIDENCE

erected from the designs of a famous architect and approached by a beautiful Avenue drive half-a-mile in length, with lodge at entrance.

It contains handsome hall, six lofty well-proportioned reception rooms, 24 bedrooms, seven bathrooms, and is fitted with electric light, telephone, etc.

Delightful old grounds, possessing the charm of maturity.

BEAUTIFUL PARK OF 175 ACRES WITH LAKE SEVERAL ACRES IN EXTENT.

Six cottages, garage for several cars, and extensive stabling with men's quarters.

CAPITAL FARM,

with good house and buildings; the whole lying compactly together and extending to about

437 ACRES

For SALE by AUCTION at an early date (unless previously Sold Privately).

Solicitors, Messrs. DRUCES & ATTLEE, 10, Billiter Square, E.C. 3.
Auctioneers, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above.



Privately Available.

WEST SUSSEX

In a much-favoured part, about 50 miles from London, and CLOSE TO THE DOWNS AND SEA.

TO BE SOLD, a

CHOICE GEORGIAN HOUSE

Standing on the brow of a hill, facing south, in heavily-timbered parklands, with extensive views. It is

IN PERFECT ORDER THROUGHOUT

and is approached by a long avenue carriage drive. Three well-proportioned reception rooms, nine good bedrooms, two bathrooms, etc.

Electric light. Central heating.

Grand old gardens, with a wealth of stately forest trees. LARGE GARAGE. STABLING. TWO COTTAGES.

The remainder comprises very beautiful parkland; in all about

50 ACRES

A Home of particular appeal, recommended by
SOLE AGENTS, OSBORN & MERCER. (15,735.)



DORSET AND DEVON

(borders) four miles from Seaton and close to village.

TO BE SOLD, an

ARTIST'S IDEAL RESIDENCE

of modern erection and thatched roof,

COMMANDING LOVELY PANORAMIC VIEWS

of valley, etc., to the sea. Lounge hall, dining and drawing rooms, studio, six or seven bedrooms, bathroom, and excellent offices.

Electric light. Studio in grounds. Garage.

Delightful garden, paddock, etc.; in all nearly THREE ACRES.

NEAR GOLF. HUNTING. GOOD FISHING.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (M 1578.)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

In a good district, a few miles from Cheltenham.

TO BE SOLD,

A BEAUTIFUL MODERN ELIZABETHAN RESIDENCE

facing south, with fine views of the Cotswolds and Malvern Hills, and standing in

WONDERFUL OLD GARDENS,

flanked by magnificent clipped yew hedges, many of which are about 100 years old, rose and flower gardens, etc.

Four reception rooms, twelve principal bedrooms, bathrooms and attics.

Electric light. Central heating. Co.'s water.

Modern stabling, garage, three cottages and an entrance lodge.

The remainder comprises a good farmhouse with ample buildings and sound pasture, etc.

20 OR 75 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,810.)

Preliminary Announcement.

SURREY

close to the most beautiful parts of the County, four miles from Farnham, six from Godalming and eight from Guildford. GOLF two miles.

"FOXHILL,"

an attractive freehold property, comprising:

A WELL-ARRANGED AND EQUIPPED RESIDENCE

standing on loam soil, commanding delightful southern views to Hindhead, and containing

Entrance lobby, two or three reception rooms, six or seven bedrooms, two bathrooms and good domestic offices, including servants' sitting room.

Company's water and electric light.

THE GROUNDS are a great feature, being delightfully varied and of natural charm. They include lovely rock garden, lily pond, tennis and other lawns, pretty woodland, kitchen garden, etc. (one gardener is sufficient).

Garage, stabling, coach house, etc. The whole covering about

FOUR-AND-A-HALF ACRES

FOR SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION at an early date (unless previously Sold Privately), by

Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, in conjunction with Mr. H. B. BAVERSTOCK, Godalming.

Solicitors: Messrs. WARRENS, 5, Bedford Square, W.C.1.

30 MILES FROM LONDON

In a beautiful unspoiled district easily accessible by road or rail for the Metropolis.

EXCEPTIONAL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

of about

2,000 ACRES

lying in a ring fence, standing 300ft. above sea level and carrying a

HANDSOME ELIZABETHAN RESIDENCE OF HISTORICAL INTEREST,

seated in a beautiful and extensive park, and thoroughly up-to-date in its appointments.

EXCELLENT SHOOTING. TROUT FISHING.

The Estate is divided into several farms, numerous cottages and small holdings, and is in good heart.

FOR SALE and recommended from inspection by the Owner's Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,722.)

CHILTERN HILLS

Much-favoured district 50 minutes from London.

FASCINATING OLD HOUSE

SET IN WONDERFUL OLD TERRACED GARDENS.

Lounge hall, magnificent oak-pannelled drawing room 30ft. by 20ft., two other reception rooms, seven bedrooms, two bathrooms, etc.

Electric light. Radiators. Telephone.

The unique gardens contain hard and grass tennis courts, stone-paved terraces, rose and water gardens, etc.; about THREE ACRES.

A property economic in upkeep.

FOR SALE AT £4,750

Recommended by OSBORN & MERCER. (15,736.)

HANTS AND SUSSEX

Occupying a picked position between Hindhead and Liphook, in a district abounding in beautiful commons.

CHARMING MODERN HOUSE

Standing 500ft. up on sandy soil, with panoramic views embracing the South Downs and the Hampshire Hills.

Four reception, nine bedrooms, two bathrooms.

Electric light. Central heating. Co.'s water.

Secluded and easily-run gardens, orchard, etc.; large garage.

£4,800, WITH 6 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,817.)

YACHTSMAN'S IDEAL HOME

KINGSWEAR, SOUTH DEVON

About four hours from London by fast trains; in an ideal situation commanding wonderful sea and coastal views.



PERFECTLY-APPOINTED HOUSE

erected in stone and standing in grounds having a

FRONTAGE TO THE RIVER DART

near to its mouth, with boathouse and landing stage. Yachts of considerable size can lie in the river opposite the Property and in full view of the house.

The House has every possible modern convenience, and contains four reception, ten bedrooms, three bathrooms.

Co.'s water and electric light. Central heating.

CHARMING TERRACED GROUNDS

of about seven acres. Spacious garage; man's rooms.

GARDENER'S COTTAGE. SECONDARY RESIDENCE.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,747.)

SOMERSET AND WILTS

In a much sought after district a few miles from BATH.

FOR SALE, at a nominal figure.

A BEAUTIFUL HOUSE IN THE TUDOR STYLE

standing high in magnificent parklands facing south.

Lounge hall, four reception, ten principal bedrooms, four bathrooms, and servants' accommodation.

Electric light. Co.'s water and gas. Central heating. Telephone.

ENTRANCE LODGE. TWO GOOD COTTAGES.

WONDERFUL OLD GROUNDS

with broad terraces, rose garden, old shady lawns, partly walled kitchen and vegetable gardens, glasshouses, etc.; stabling, garage, outbuildings and finely timbered park.

50 ACRES

Agents, OSBORN & MERCER. (15,707.)

Telephone : Whitehall 6767.
Telegrams :
"Selaniet, Piccy, London."

HAMPTON & SONS

(For continuation of advertisements see page vi.)

Branches : Wimbledon
Phone 0080.
Hampstead
Phone 6026.

THE PICK OF THE MARKET

A COPY OF THIS UNIQUE ILLUSTRATED GUIDE FOR HOUSE SEEKERS FREE ON APPLICATION.
PLEASE STATE YOUR REQUIREMENTS.

IN THE BEAUTIFUL DISTRICT OF

WINCHFIELD

Amidst delightfully rural and unspoilt surroundings, yet only just over one hour from Town.
Facing South, overlooking a prettily timbered Common.



Most picturesque
OLD-WORLD
RESIDENCE,
thoroughly modernised and
having
Electric light, Company's
gas and water, independent
hot water supply.

Entrance hall, three or
four reception rooms, nine
bed and dressing rooms,
bathroom, servants' hall.
Excellent cottage, garage,
outbuildings.

LOVELY OLD-
FASHIONED GROUNDS,

tennis and other lawns, sunk garden, kitchen garden, orchard and grassland, in all about

TEN ACRES.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

Strongly recommended from personal knowledge.—HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (H 13,032.)

Secluded in a charming village on the borders of

DORSET AND SOMERSET



PICTURESQUE TUDOR HOUSE
(Circa 1613).

FOR SALE AT A LOW FIGURE.

Lounge, large dining room (24ft.), drawing room, servants' hall, good offices,
seven bedrooms, bathroom and attic.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN WATER.

STABLING. GARAGE.

Shady old garden with tennis court.

A House of character at a minimum of cost and upkeep.
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (W 41,057.)

20 MILES OF TOWN

WITH FIRST-RATE TRAIN SERVICE.

Extensive and delightful open views. Close to golf.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD



THIS VERY CHOICE AND DISTINCTIVE MEDIUM-SIZED RESIDENCE.
Most inexpensive to maintain. Very complete modern comforts.

All principal rooms face South.

Spacious and beautiful suite of reception rooms, eight good bedrooms, three baths.
First-class lodge (centrally heated and having bathroom).

Two garages and man's room.

PRETTY GROUNDS WITH STONE FLAGGED TERRACES

Sunken garden. Shrubberies. Ample shade. Kitchen and fruit gardens.

A Property that cannot be too highly recommended.

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (S 43,738.)

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTORS.

BRANKSOME PARK, DORSET

Backing on to beautiful Chine. Finest residential part of a favourite locality. Facilities for
bathing, golf, boating, fishing and tennis.



BERKELEY TOWERS.

A combined Freehold
Family RESIDENCE and
maisonette with drive
approach. The House con-
taining vestibule, hall,
three reception rooms, five
or seven bedrooms, bath
and offices. Maisonette
provides hall, four rooms,
bath and offices.

All public services are
connected, and the building
stands in well-timbered and
secluded gardens with
garage, in all nearly

TWO ACRES.

Vacant possession of the Maisonette.

To be SOLD BY AUCTION, at the St. James's Estate Rooms, S.W. 1, on TUESDAY,
MAY 10th next (unless previously Sold).

Solicitors, Messrs. LITGOW & PEPER, 41, Wimpole Street, W. 1.

Particulars from the Auctioneers, HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.

OXON

WITH VIEWS OF THE CHILTERN HILLS.

Pleasantly situate on the outskirts of the favourite village of
SHILLINGFORD.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD,

MOST ATTRACTIVE &
RESIDENCE,

well planned and containing
lounge hall, two reception
rooms, lofty billiards room,
nine bedrooms, two bath-
rooms, usual offices.

Central heating.

Electric light.

Garage. Large building
suitable for conversion into
cottage.

DELIGHTFULLY
LAID-OUT GROUNDS,

tennis and other lawns, flower and kitchen gardens, orchard and paddock; in all about

TWO-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

GOLF, BOATING, FISHING AND HUNTING IN THE DISTRICT.

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (B 8955.)

NORTH HEREFORD

In magnificent country, five miles from a good Town.



ATTRACTIVE SMALL ESTATE IN A RING FENCE
with valuable fruit-growing land

FOR SALE.

The comfortable TWO FLOOR HOUSE contains lounge hall, four reception
rooms, thirteen bedrooms, two bathrooms, servants' hall and usual offices.

Central heating. Gravitation water. Electricity available.

GOOD STABLING, GARAGES AND FARMERY.

Rock and rose gardens. Japanese garden, tennis court and croquet lawn, apple
orchards, etc., in all about 67 ACRES.

Golf five miles. First-rate shooting can be rented. Hunting in district.

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (W 26,766.)

SUSSEX

With a magnificent panoramic view of Ashdown Forest adjoining.

FOR SALE.

OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE



Remodelled regardless of expense, and fitted with every possible convenience.
Three reception rooms, nine bedrooms, three bathrooms, loggia.

Model garages, two cottages, farmbuildings.

THE GROUNDS HAVE A WONDERFUL SETTING. HARD TENNIS COURT,
rock garden by Cheale, stream, kitchen garden, meadowland and woodland; in
all about 80 ACRES.

A TRULY PERFECT LITTLE ESTATE.

Most highly recommended by the Agents,

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (C 44,671.)

BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS.

CATERHAM VALLEY, SURREY

HEALTHY POSITION 600FT. UP.

LOT 1.—NOMINAL UPSET PRICE £1,250.

"KYNASTON," UNDER-
WOOD ROAD, a luxuri-
ously fitted FREEHOLD
RESIDENCE, containing
lounge hall, three reception
rooms and a billiards room, nine
bed and dressing rooms,
three baths and offices; central
heating, independent
hot water; all public ser-
vices; tastefully arranged
gardens with site for garage.
In all about one-and-a-
quarter acres. Also Lots 2
and 3.—Two VALUABLE
BUILDING PLOTS, each
about an acre, and having
frontages to Harstone Val-
ley and Underwood roads of
over 200ft., providing excellent sites for one or more gentlemen's Residences; all public
services. Vacant possession of each Lot on completion.

To be SOLD BY AUCTION, at the St. James's Estate Rooms, S.W. 1, on TUESDAY,
APRIL 12th next (unless Sold Privately).

Solicitors, Messrs. THEODORE GODDARD & CO., 10, Serjeants' Inn, Temple, E.C. 4.

Particulars from the Auctioneers, BATCHELOR & SONS, Caterham Valley, Surrey, and
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.



Offices : 20, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W. 1

Telephone :
Grosvenor 3131.

CURTIS & HENSON

LONDON

Telegrams :
"Submit, London."

BERKSHIRE—BETWEEN NEWBURY AND READING—40 MINUTES' EXPRESS RAIL

WELL-KNOWN COUNTRY ESTATE WITH OLD RED-BRICK GEORGIAN HOUSE IN FINELY TIMBERED PARK.

FINE SITUATION ON RISING GROUND WITH SOUTHERLY ASPECTS over BEAUTIFUL PANORAMA. Protected by woodland on the north and approached by three drives with lodges.

The accommodation is spacious, excellently arranged and in first-class order AND ALL ON TWO FLOORS. There is sun lounge, sitting hall, Adam drawing room, dining room, library, garden hall.

Above, all on one floor, are eleven principal bed and dressing rooms, three tiled bathrooms, five staff bedrooms and fourth bathroom.

LAVATORY BASINS IN BED-ROOMS.

POLISHED OAK FLOORS.

CENTRAL HEATING.

ELECTRICITY FROM PRIVATE PLANT.

UNFAILING WATER SUPPLY.

NEW SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE.



COURTYARD AND BUILDINGS, including GARAGE, HUNTER STABLING, CHAUFFEUR'S AND GROOM'S COTTAGES.

BEAUTIFUL OLD PLEASURE GROUNDS

Walks with yew hedges, cedar and TENNIS LAWNS, walled fruit garden. Useful glass. WELL-TIMBERED ROLLING PARK.

THE FARM AND MODEL BUILDINGS ARE EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR RAISING PEDIGREE STOCK; THE PASTURES HAVE WATER LAID ON, and the whole has been well farmed for many years.

BAILIFF'S HOUSE AND SIXTEEN COTTAGES.

There are 56 acres of woods and plantations, and

THE TOTAL AREA EXTENDS TO ABOUT 500 ACRES, which with additional rented land FORMS A FIRST-CLASS SHOOT. Close to first-class golf.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-FOUND PROPERTY.

Very highly recommended.—Views and particulars from the Sole Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

AMIDST THE COTSWOLD HILLS

AT A POINT WHERE FOUR COUNTIES MEET. EXPRESS TRAIN SERVICE UNDER TWO HOURS. FIRST-CLASS HUNTING. WITHIN A DRIVE OF STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

MOST ATTRACTIVE MEDIUM-SIZED FARMING PROPERTY. RICH GRASSLAND. PICTURESQUE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE. FINE VIEWS. Three reception, nine bedrooms, bathroom; electric light, excellent water and drainage; stabling for hunters, two garages, farmbuildings, three cottages; matured pleasure grounds of character, lawns, old trees, kitchen garden, paddock and high quality grassland which has been very successfully farmed; in all ABOUT 90 ACRES. FREEHOLD. LOW PRICE CONSIDERED.

(Residence and about ten acres would be sold separately if required.)

TROUT FISHING AVAILABLE.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

AN ELIZABETHAN MANOR HOUSE

Five miles from a station, only 30 minutes' rail by exceptionally good service of express trains.

SURREY AND KENT BORDER (in a very fine position, 500ft. ABOVE SEA, with WONDERFUL VIEWS); long drive over brick bridge with courtyard to perfect seclusion. The accommodation comprises: Lounge hall, oak-panelled sitting room, two other reception rooms, eleven bedrooms, three bathrooms; ELECTRIC LIGHT, NEW WATER SUPPLY, CENTRAL HEATING. The GARDENS have an individuality befitting the old Manor House, with moat and other features; HARD TENNIS COURT; garage and stabling, SIX COTTAGES, MODEL HOME FARM and 485 ACRES if desired. Recommended as an unique Property. For SALE.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

EXECUTORS' SALE. PHENOMENALLY LOW UPSET PRICE, £3,500

"OAKLANDS," BETWEEN SEVENOAKS AND TONBRIDGE

FACING SOUTH, ALL ON TWO FLOORS, PROTECTED BY WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS AND PARKLAND.

LONDON 28 MILES—45 MINUTES' RAIL.

Attractive yet secluded and rural situation.

VIEWS OVER UNULATING AND WELL-WOODED COUNTRY.

UNUSUALLY GOOD APPROACH by carriage drive with lodge.

GOOD MODERN HOUSE

with GABLED ELEVATION in brick and stone. Gallered hall, three reception, ten or eleven bed and dressing, three bath, good offices with servants' hall.



Solicitors, Messrs. GARD, LVELL & Co., Leith House, 47, Gresham Street, E.C. 2.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale from the Auctioneers and Sole Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

GARAGE, TWO COTTAGES, SMALL FARMERY.

Useful buildings and GARDEN ROOM.

COMPANY'S WATER, COMPANY'S ELECTRICITY, CENTRAL HEATING, MODERN DRAINAGE.

INEXPENSIVELY MAINTAINED GARDENS

with lawns, shrubberies, formal and rose gardens, walled kitchen gardens.

WELL-TIMBERED PARK-LIKE PASTURES.

ABOUT 30 ACRES

For SALE by AUCTION (as a whole or in Lots) on April 5th next, at the LONDON AUCTION MART.

ASHDOWN FOREST

UNDER TWO MILES FROM FAMOUS GOLF COURSE. 600FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL. ON SAND.

FAITHFUL COPY OF AN OLD MANOR HOUSE. replete with every possible convenience. Long carriage drive. FOUR RECEPTION, TWELVE BEDROOMS, FOUR BATHROOMS. Electric light, central heating, good water. Garage, two cottages, picturesque old farmhouse. CHARMING GARDENS a feature, kitchen garden, lawns, hard tennis court, and park-like meadowland; in all ABOUT SIXTEEN ACRES.

Bounded by the Forest and large Private Estate.

Very highly recommended.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

WALTON HEATH GOLF COURSE

ONLY EIGHTEEN MILES OUT. BEAUTIFUL VIEWS. GRAVEL SOIL. 600FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

PICTURESQUE RESIDENCE of red brick and oak timbering; long drive. Lounge hall, three reception, music room, twelve bed, four bath; garage for three, two cottages. COMPANY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER, CENTRAL HEATING. Unusually attractive grounds laid out by well-known landscape gardeners. HARD AND GRASS COURTS, sunk garden, random stone terrace, fishpool, kitchen garden and pastureland; in all about FOURTEEN ACRES.

First-class golf. MODERATE PRICE.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTORS.

IN PICTURESQUE WOODED COUNTRY ON THE KENT AND SUSSEX BORDER

FACING DUE SOUTH.

UNDER AN HOUR'S EXPRESS RAIL.



COMPANY'S WATER.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

CENTRAL HEATING.

MODERN DRAINAGE.

A LUXURIOUS AND COMPLETE SMALL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. economically maintained and in excellent order. TUDOR-STYLE CREEPER-LAD BRICK HOUSE, of CHARACTER, approached by avenue drive with lodge; hall, three reception rooms (one 37ft. by 21ft.), eleven bed and dressing rooms, SIX BATHROOMS, butler's and chauffeur's bedrooms, model offices; GARAGE AND STABLING, FOUR COTTAGES, excellent farmbuildings. THE PRETTY GARDENS ARE ECONOMICAL OF UPKEEP AND ARRANGED IN TERRACES, tennis and croquet lawns, rose garden, herbaceous garden, WALLED KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDEN, orchard, small lake and hillside wood. The land is of attractive park-like character, extending to about 87 ACRES.—Illustrated particulars from the Sole Agents, GEERING & COLYER, Hawkhurst, Kent, and CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

Telephone No.:
Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines).

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778).

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W. 1

And at
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq.,
45, Parliament St.,
Westminster, S.W.

HENLEY-UPON-THAMES.

AN UNIQUE AND UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE, ON A FAMOUS REGATTA COURSE AND ADJOINING A WELL-KNOWN CLUB.



A WELL-PLANNED
MODERN RESIDENCE,
approached by a drive and entirely
secluded; hall, three reception
rooms, twelve bed and dressing, two or
three baths; all main services.
Several attractions unobtainable
elsewhere, including excellent land-
ing stage, boathouse and

THE ROYAL BOX.
ONE ACRE

Confidently recommended by
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25,
Mount Street, London, W. 1
(C 6074.)



WILTS. EASY REACH OF WESTBURY AND CHIPPENHAM



A FINE MELLOWED STONE
JACOBAN AND QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE,

STANDING IN OLD TIMBERED PARKLAND AND APPROACHED BY TWO
DRIVES.

Seventeen bed, five baths, oak-panelled drawing room, music room, four other reception
rooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. GOOD WATER.
GARAGE. STABLING AND ROOMS. LODGE

EXQUISITELY LAID-OUT GROUNDS.

20 ACRES. £8,500

FISHING CAN BE RENTED.

Inspected and strongly recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street,
W. 1. (3887.)

ON THE CHILTERN

TO BE LET, UNFURNISHED, ON LEASE, OR FURNISHED,

AN OLD MANOR HOUSE.

PARQUET FLOORS THROUGHOUT.

Twelve bed, two baths, four reception and lounge hall.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. CO.'S WATER.
STABLING. GARAGE. TWO COTTAGES.

BEAUTIFUL OLD TIMBERED GROUNDS WITH LAKE.

58 ACRES

Recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 6142.)

Telegrams: "Teamwork, Piccy, London."
Telephone: Mayfair 6363
(4 lines).

NORFOLK & PRIOR

14, HAY HILL, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W. 1

Land and Estate Agents,
Auctioneers, Valuers,
Rating and General Surveyors.

HERTS

In a small town about 25 miles from London.
UNIQUE XIVTH CENTURY HOUSE.



faithfully restored by
well-known architect,
and containing
exceptional period
features.

Nine bed and dressing
rooms, three bath-
rooms, Tudor hall,
three reception rooms,
well-arranged domestic
offices.

Central heating, main
water, Co.'s gas,
modern drainage.

Small garden and
Oast House suitable
for garage.

FOR SALE WITH OR WITHOUT THE PERIOD FURNITURE.
SACRIFICE FOR QUICK SALE.

Sole Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 14, Hay Hill, Berkeley Square, W. 1.

OXFORDSHIRE

On the lower slopes of the Cotswolds, near the Bucks and Gloucestershire borders.
Hunting with the Old Becks Hunt and V.W.H.

CHARMING OLD COTSWOLD HOUSE.

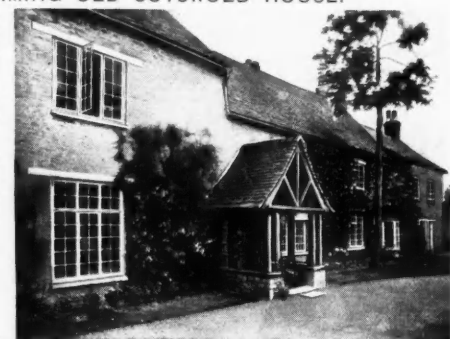
Nine bed and dressing
rooms, two bath-
rooms, four reception
rooms, complete do-
mestic offices.

Electricity, Com-
pany's gas, main
water, modern drain-
age.

Stabling, garage
and other outbuild-
ings, two cottages,
stone-built barn,
music or billiard
room.

OLD-WORLD
GARDENS,
TENNIS COURT,
ORCHARD, Etc.;
in all

THREE ACRES.



AT A VERY REASONABLE PRICE.

Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 14, Hay Hill, Berkeley Square, W. 1.

SUFFOLK.—To be LET at Midsummer, 1932. "REYDON
HALL," near Southwold. Medium-sized attractive
Country Residence, two miles from Southwold, comprising
three reception rooms, eight bedrooms, four maids' rooms,
two bathrooms and usual offices; good gardens and garages
for three or four cars, stabling and Company's water. The
home farm of 70 acres can also be hired and shooting over
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SALE BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS (on the
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an attractive MOORLAND RESIDENCE, replete with all
modern conveniences: four reception, billiard room, seven
bed and dressing rooms, ample domestic offices; gardener's
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BEDS AND BUCKS BORDERS.—To be LET.
Unfurnished (six miles main line station, London one
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principal bedrooms, four servants' bedrooms, linen room, two
bathrooms, ample offices; main electric light, water and
drainage, central heating; garage for two or three cars and
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Lovely gardens with wide-spreading lawns, walled kitchen garden; stables, garage, three good cottages.

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NINE BED. and TWO BATH
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SEVEN LOOSE BOXES
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AMPLE OUTBUILDINGS.

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In all about
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SIX OR SEVEN BEDROOMS,
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secluded in beautiful grounds of many acres, contains:

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FOUR BATHROOMS,

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Garage for three, chauffeur's and butler's accommodation.

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with tennis lawn, level terrace walks, kitchen garden, etc.

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Swimmers' private beach and good bathing beach close by.

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64½ acres Freehold, 7½ acres Copyhold.

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GEORGIAN STYLE RESIDENCE.

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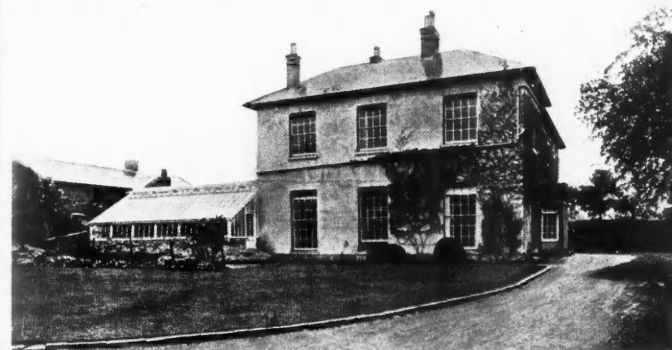
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Lounge hall, three reception, eight bed, two bathrooms, three cubicles for maids,
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400ft. up. Sand soil. Lovely views.



BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE: Lounge hall, three reception rooms, eleven bedrooms, two bathrooms, good offices. Electric light, Coy.'s water. Parquet floors. Garage, stabling, good cottage. **VERY CHARMING GARDENS**, kitchen garden, orchard, woodland; about 34 ACRES. **FREEHOLD PRICE, £8,000.** Sole Agents, WILSON & Co., 14, Mount Street, W. 1.

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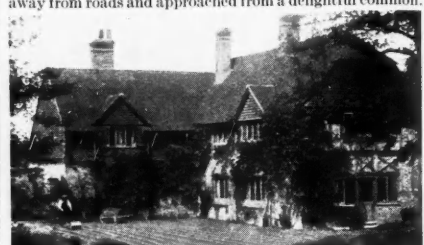
Under an hour from Town. Adjoining delightful common.



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A PICTURESQUE OLD-WORLD HOUSE. Oak-beamed ceilings and mullioned windows. Five bedrooms, bathroom, hall, two reception rooms. Garage, two cottages, outbuildings, etc.; electric light, gas and main water. **CHARMING AND INEXPENSIVE GARDENS.** Pasture-land and protective woodland.

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THREE-ACRE LAKE AND STREAM AFFORDING TROUT FISHING.

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PRICE £3,750.
AN ATTRACTIVE DETACHED RESIDENCE.
PRE-WAR BUILT.
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Three reception rooms, cloakroom, five bedrooms, bathroom, linen room, storeroom, up-to-date domestic offices on the ground floor.
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ADDITIONAL LAND IF DESIRED.
GARAGE.
FREEHOLD.
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DELIGHTFUL OLD OAK-BEAMED COUNTRY COTTAGE IN A PERFECT SETTING.



FIVE BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, LOUNGE HALL, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS.

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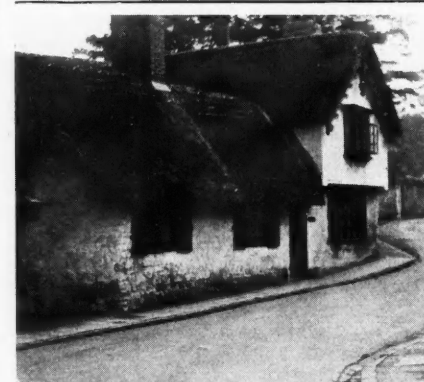
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£1,150.—Fine modern detached RESIDENCE; residential district Cheltenham; fourteen rooms, level kitchen, two bathrooms; stables; tennis lawn.

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Two garages, capital cottage and stabling.
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Fascinating rock and water garden, formal
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THE PLEASURE GROUNDS are pro-
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EXQUISITE SPECIMEN OF TUDOR ARCHITECTURE.
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ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE.



On the fringe of a
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Fascinating in the
extreme.

Lounge hall and gal-
lery, three charming
reception rooms, Oak
beam ceiling, panelling,
leaded light windows,
open fireplaces, par-
quet floors. Six bed-
rooms, two bath-
rooms (one tiled);
running water in bed-
rooms, tiled kitchen
(quite exceptional).
Central heating, electric
lighting, main water.

GARAGE WITH ROOMS OVER. CAPTIVATING OLD-WORLD GARDENS.
TENNIS COURT AND LARGE Paddock.

THREE ACRES. FREEHOLD ONLY £4,600

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SURREY-SUSSEX BORDERS. 38 MINUTES CITY.
MODERNISED. ON TWO FLOORS ONLY.
CENTRAL FOR THE OLD SURREY AND BURSTOW HUNT.



Rural and unspoiled
position, away from
traffic.

South aspect. Bright
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rooms, two dressing
and bathrooms.

MAIN LIGHTING
AND WATER.

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ATTRACTIVE
OLD GARDENS,
with a fine collection
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ROCKERY, ROSE GARDEN, TENNIS COURT. Orchard and pretty spinney.
RATES UNDER £10 HALF-YEARLY.

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HEALTHY AND BRACING. 500 FT. UP. NINETEEN MILES LONDON.
EXECUTORS' SALE.



A substantial
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RESIDENCE,
brick built with
weather tiling, and
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Well retired from a
quiet road.
Good views.

Lounge hall, two re-
ception rooms, seven
or eight bedrooms,
large bathroom. All
rooms enjoy plenty of
sunshine.

MAIN LIGHTING
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Standing in a matured
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IDEAL SITUATION FOR BUSINESS MAN. EASY WALKING DISTANCE
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Four reception rooms,
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magnificent mantle-
pieces.



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LARGE ROOMS.

Close to the crest of the
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Lovely outlook over
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by own woods. On
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Swimming lake.

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A CHARMING OLD-WORLD HOME

in an exquisite garden, standing 350ft. up on a light loam soil, enjoying perfect seclusion, yet only three-and-a-half miles from a main line station with a frequent express service to London in 50 minutes. Adjoining a common and facing due south. Completely modernised at an enormous expense, yet still retaining its beautiful old features. Hall, large drawing and dining rooms with fine inglenook fireplaces, six bedrooms, four bathrooms, tiled offices, with servants' hall. All modern conveniences: two excellent cottages, garages, range of kennels. The GARDEN is one of the most beautiful in Sussex, with tennis court and extensive woodland planted with bluebells, anemones and foxgloves.

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containing, on two floors, four reception and seven bedrooms, three bathrooms, capital offices.

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VERY MODERATE PRICE.

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£2,600 (OR NEAR OFFER)



GLOS. AND MON. BORDERS.—A very comfortable COUNTRY HOUSE on a sunny hillside with views down the beautiful Wye Valley, approached by a drive through pretty grounds. Lounge hall, three good reception, eight bed and dressing rooms, bath; telephone, gas; garage, good cottage; charming sloping gardens, orcharding and land; in all about SEVEN ACRES. Near village and station. Recommended from inspection by W. HUGHES and SON, LTD., Bristol. (17,918.)

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TO LET, FURNISHED, MAY-AUGUST.
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nurseries, four bathrooms, four
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complete domestic offices.

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Telephone.

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Three excellent cottages.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS,
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lawns, En-Tout-Cas tennis court,
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PRICE £6,500 FREEHOLD.

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In a high and healthy position commanding delightful
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**EXCEEDINGLY ATTRACTIVE
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with well-designed House in excellent order throughout.
Eight bedrooms, bathroom, four reception rooms,
complete domestic offices.

DOUBLE GARAGE. OUTBUILDINGS.

COMPANY'S GAS AND WATER.

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South aspect.

CHARMING GARDENS AND GROUNDS,
tastefully laid out with lawns, herbaceous borders, walled
kitchen garden, orchard, excellent paddock, the whole
covering an area of just under

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Three minutes' walk from a Golf Course.

In a good residential district.

A VERY ATTRACTIVE WELL-CON-
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throughout: five bedrooms, dressing room, two bathrooms,
two reception rooms, lounge hall, complete domestic offices;
Company's gas and water; garage for two cars, sheds;
well-matured grounds including full-sized tennis court,
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FOUR ACRES.

PRICE £3,150, FREEHOLD.

An additional four-and-a-half acres and a seven-roomed
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In pine and heather country, about nine miles from
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A WELL-CONSTRUCTED SMALL
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repair: three bedrooms, bathroom, two sitting rooms,
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garage; excellent well-arranged gardens, including lawn,
flower beds and vegetable garden.

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IN THE HEART OF THE BEAUTIFUL

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Occupying a delightful position off the main road.

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Eleven bedrooms, three bathrooms, three reception rooms,
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Excellent garage.

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MAIN DRAINAGE AND WATER.

BEAUTIFULLY MATURED PLEASURE GARDENS
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with choice trees and shrubs, shrubbery walks, tennis
lawn, pastureland; the whole extending to an area of about

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FIVE MILES FROM DORCHESTER.

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Including **THE MAGNIFICENTLY PLACED SITE** of the Mansion known as "Frampton Court" (to be demolished), with the charming pleasure grounds,
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SOUTH ASPECT. SANDY SOIL. GARAGE.



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CHARMING OLD
HALF-TIMBERED
RESIDENCE.

OAK BEAMS,
OPEN FIREPLACES,
CASEMENT
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Eight bedrooms,
Two bathrooms,
Three reception rooms.

600 FT. UP.

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GROUND OF FOUR ACRES. PRICE, FREEHOLD, £5,000.

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WITH A WEALTH OF OLD OAK.

ONE HOUR FROM LONDON.

SOUTH ASPECT.

Company's electric
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LODGE.

NINE
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(five more available).

FOUR
BATHROOMS.

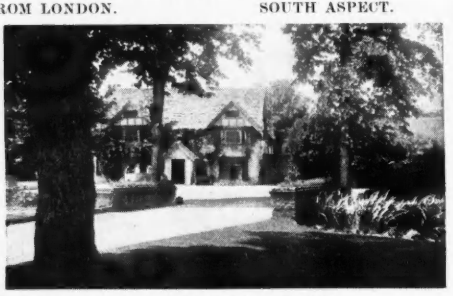
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SANITATION.

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Hard tennis court.



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Furnished. Three reception, six bedrooms; every
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Old House preferred of some character, but must have electric
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£3,100.

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Three reception, seven bed, two bathrooms; electric light, Company's
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NEAR EASTBOURNE

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THIS HOUSE IS IN THE MARKET
FOR THE FIRST TIME.

It combines in a remarkable
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At the foot of the
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Architect,
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FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS,
TWELVE TO THIRTEEN BEDROOMS

or, with Georgian cottage
annexe which can be pur-
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EIGHTEEN TO TWENTY BEDROOMS.

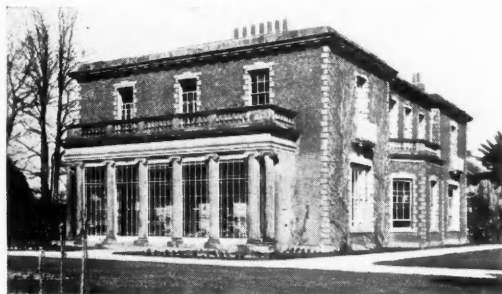
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SOLUTION to No. 111.

The clues for this appeared in March 12th issue

A	P	A	N	E	G	Y	R	I	C	M			
K	R	A	A	L	R	U	E	T	R	E	E	S	
O	S	A	T	E	L	L	I	T	E	R			
O	M	I	T	S	M	E	L	L	O	P	T	I	C
F	A	N	E	B	I	S	O	N	E	R	T	H	
F	F	I	T	W	A	O	E						
E	L	L	I	P	S	E	G	O	V	I	A		
R	O	U	T	E			A	M	A	R	P		
T	W	E	E	D	L	E	H	I	V	I	T	E	S
O	N	S	L	O	E	O	I						
R	A	Z	E	J	A	C	O	B	T	R	O	D	
Y	E	A	S	T	T	E	D	T	H	E	S	E	
G	A	R	T	I	L	L	E	R	I				
D	I	T	T	O	O	L	A	M	E	E	R		
S	E	C	O	N	O	M	I	S	E	R			

ACROSS.

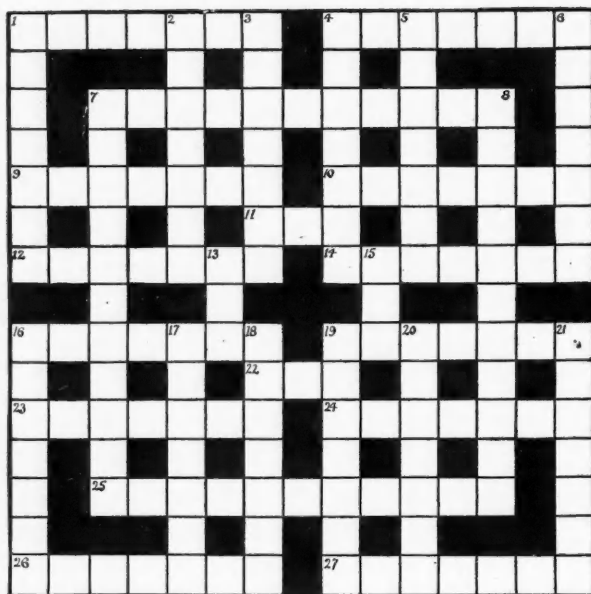
1. A knave of old.
4. This invariably adds to your costs.
7. Motorists swear by it but do the police always believe it?
9. "nae meat" (anagr.).
10. A military formation.
11. And another little drink won't do us any harm.
12. Suitable for rambles.
14. Our little ones have their day.
16. Seated on 6.
19. A singular cutting instrument.
22. An Arabian Bird.
23. A classic avowal of guilt.
24. Scots thrive on this.
25. "When from its sheath with bated breath I drew my —"
26. A colloquial parasite.
27. Early pussyfoots.

DOWN.

1. You may gather this from the Prayerbook.
2. A wine cooler.
3. Children often are afflicted with these.
4. Famous for their sticking power.
5. To be met with in Macbeth.
6. Many toppled after the War.
7. These fellows are always in trouble.
8. Calverley wrote an ode to the boy with one this.
13. The start of 2.
15. Reserved and reversed.
16. Still frequent at Eton.
17. Approaching.
18. Not to be included among 27.
19. A plague.
20. Means.
21. Men who are these may well wear these.

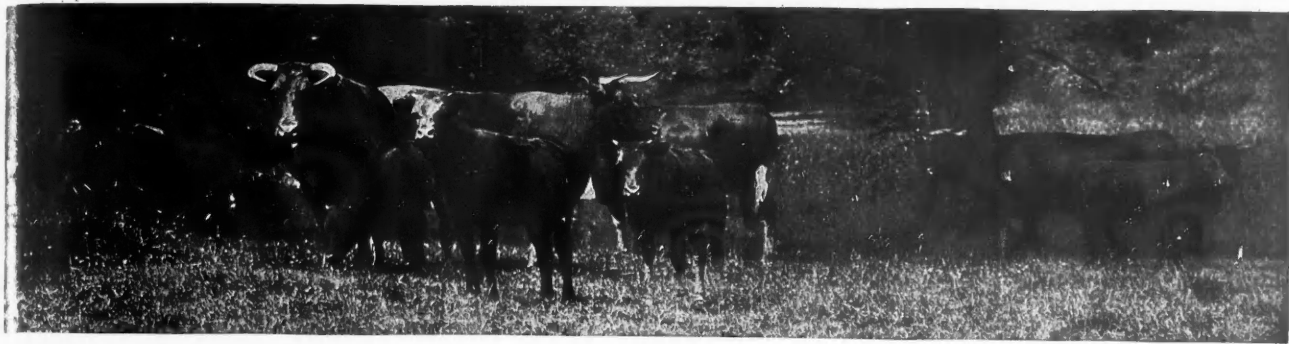
"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 113

A prize of books of the value of 3 guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 113, COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the first post on the morning of Thursday, March 31st, 1932.

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PROSPECTS of PEDIGREE STOCK

SUFFOLK SHEEP IN 1931.—The Suffolk Sheep Society have issued their Year Book for 1932, copies of which can be obtained free from the Secretary, 24, Princes Street, Ipswich. This gives a review of the present position of the breed, together with an account of the merits of Suffolk sheep for pure and cross breeding. Nineteen-thirty-one has been a successful year for the breed, and prices have been on a much higher level than other Down breeds. This can be accounted for by the popularity of the Suffolk for crossing for the production of early and mid-season fat lambs. Throughout the country generally the demand for the Suffolk ram has been unabated. At the Society's sale in August, eight ram lambs sold for over 100 guineas each, the 154 sold averaging £25 7s. 10d., and this in a year of acute agricultural depression. The trade for ewes was also very keen, though prices were on a slightly lower basis to the previous year. A remarkable accomplishment of the breed stands out in that over 3,000 shearing ewes made a higher average price per head than the highest priced pen (per head) of any other Down breed in the country during the past year. The highest price made by Suffolks was £31 each for a pen of ten shearing (maiden) ewes. In numbers, new flocks have exceeded dispersals, the total number of registered flocks distributed over Great Britain and Ireland being 347.

ROYAL SHOW WONDER COW'S THIRD 2,000-GALLON YIELD.—Mr. E. G. Barton's famous British Friesian cow Chaddesley Hedge Rose 2nd, that won the Milking Trials Open Championships at the last four Royal Shows, has recently completed her third consecutive 2,000-gallon yield. The story of her busy working life is, in production figures, as follows:
Born April 26th, 1923.

Caled.	Milk Yield in lbs.	Days Recording	Year
April 29, 1926	12,563	358	12,278
June 17, 1927	16,877	311	18,207
" 21, 1928	17,830	308	20,252
" 2, 1929	23,588	348	22,242
" 22, 1930	22,585	310	23,382
" 19, 1931	20,884	264	

She is now yielding 4 gallons daily and is due to calve again in June. In a total milking period of less than six years she has produced 11,432 gallons of milk, an average of 1,905 gallons over her six first lactation periods. Altogether she has produced over 51 tons of milk, which is about seventy-six times her own weight. A year ago Chaddesley Hedge Rose 2nd won for Mr. Barton the Harold Jackson Trophy Competition held by the Central Council of Milk Recording Societies. Her average milk yield for three consecutive recording years was 2,023 gallons. At the Royal Shows of 1929 and 1930 she obtained the highest points in the butter tests, competing with all breeds.

ANOTHER 2,000 - GALLON AYRSHIRE COW.—The Ayrshire cow Bogside Fenella, bred and owned by Mr. Alexander D. Murchie, Bogside, Dronagan, Ayrshire, has just completed a yield of over 2,000 gallons of milk in forty-nine weeks. Born on February 18th, 1921, she is just over eleven years of age. She was sired by Overton Foundation and out of Bogside Jenny 3rd. As a nine year old she yielded 1,435 gallons of milk at 4.11 per cent. butter-fat in forty-two weeks, while her record lactation was 2,034 gallons at 4.35 per cent. butter-fat in forty-nine weeks. She calved on February 14th, 1931, and again on February 29th, 1932. Fenella could not help being a milkster, the dam of her sire, Overton Dewdrop, having had a remarkable series of splendid yields. This makes the sixth Ayrshire cow in Britain to reach the 2,000 gallon mark in one lactation, one having done this twice.

EXPORT OF CATTLE AND FORAGE TO JERSEY.—By an Act dated March 5th, 1932, Hampshire has been added to the list of counties from which cattle (for slaughter) and forage may be imported into Jersey. The other counties from which import is allowed are Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire. Consignments must be accompanied by a sworn declaration as to the place of origin and by a certificate from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries that no outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease or cattle plague has occurred within fifteen miles of the said place during the past six months.

FOOT - AND - MOUTH DISEASE RESEARCH.—The current issue of the Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture contains an article on recent research in foot-and-mouth disease written by Dr. J. A. Arkwright, F.R.S., the Chairman of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Research Committee. The article is a brief summary of recent research as outlined in detail in the fourth and previous progress reports of the Committee. Among the many facts so far established one that is particularly striking is the persistence of infectivity of carcasses of cattle even when kept frozen or chilled and also in the case of parts of carcasses kept in pickling solutions.

NATIONAL MARK BEEF.—In all three areas in which home-killed beef is graded and marked with the National Mark, namely (1) London, (2) Birmingham, and (3) Leeds, Bradford, and Halifax, the quantity graded and marked each week in February, 1932, was substantially larger than in the previous month. For the London trade, 3,800 sides of beef per week were graded and marked in February as compared with 3,558 in January; for Birmingham, 884 as compared with 807; and for the Leeds, Bradford and Halifax area, 1,001 as compared with 938. It is important to remember that the National Mark beef scheme is on a voluntary basis, and these satisfactory figures indicate that there is a growing demand for National Mark beef, either from retail butchers who wish to give visible evidence to their customers that they are selling genuine home-killed beef of a high standard, or from consumers who have found that the National Mark provides them with an effective guarantee both of quality and home origin. The future of the scheme has recently been the subject of an enquiry by an Inter-Departmental Committee, presided over by Lord Kirkley, and their report is expected shortly.

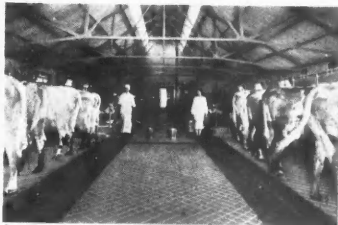
FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL NATIONAL HACKNEY SHOW.—The forty-eighth National Hackney Show will be held on June 2nd, 3rd and 4th next, in conjunction with the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, at Stoke Hill Park, Guildford. The usual liberal classification is again provided for hackneys and ponies in hand and in harness. Classes are also provided for amateur driving, ladies' driving, pairs, tandems and novices, and the cash prizes offered amount to £1,216. For the first time stallions will be allowed to compete in all the harness classes for which they are eligible. This is the third year of the venue of the Show in the south of England, where there is a large ring and ample stabling accommodation, and special railway facilities will be available for exhibitors and breeders. Entries close on April 9th next and entry forms and full particulars can be obtained from the Society's offices, 12, Hanover Square, W.1.

NATIONAL MARK EGGS.—In a survey of the National Mark Eggs Scheme the Ministry of Agriculture state that during the year 1931 the National Mark egg packing stations handled 312 million eggs, of which 235 million were packed under the National Mark as compared with an output of 222 million in 1930, of which 160 million were sold under the Mark. The substantial advance that these figures reveal testifies to the growing appreciation by producers of the services rendered to them by the packing stations. This progress is not due to the establishment of new packing stations, but to a general increase in supplies received by the stations as a whole. This is confirmed by the following classification of stations according to output:

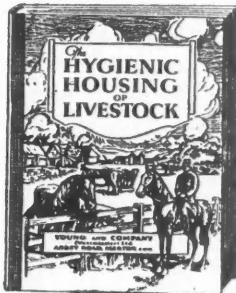
Output.	No. of Stations 1931 1931
Over 5 million eggs	3
2 to 5 million eggs	28
Under 2 million eggs	109

Egg prices generally were lower in 1931 than in the previous year, as was the case with commodities generally throughout the world. National Mark eggs, however, maintained their ground well in comparison with the best of the imported eggs, and the record of the past year is one on which the poultry industry can be congratulated. A good start has been made in 1932. In January nearly 22 million eggs were packed under the National Mark, or 37 per cent. more than in January, 1931, and this total represents 80 per cent. of the total output of the National Mark packing stations during the month. Never before has such a high percentage been reached. It is a happy augury for continued progress.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 26th, 1932.

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Stock Breeding and the Future

NOW that the Wheat Bill is safely through Parliament and is being put to the test of practical experience, it is just as well to turn and see what other branches of agriculture stand in need of assistance and reorganisation. For cereals play by no means the largest part in our agricultural economy. On the other hand, stock breeding must and will continue to dominate agricultural policy in this country, notwithstanding the success of the attempts which are being made to relieve the arable farmer of some of his difficulties. It is a branch in which the British agriculturist is well qualified to excel. There is, however, a little disquiet expressed by competent observers that breeders do not always pursue the highest of ideals in regard to breeding practices. One can exempt the constructive breeder from this criticism, but constructive breeders in the best sense of the term are few and far between. One of the distinguishing characteristics of the constructive breeder is his concentration upon a uniformly high standard in his breeding type. Uniformity has many assets. Those great breeders whose names figure prominently in the annals of stock breeding have been distinguished by their capacity for imposing their ideals on their herds, studs and flocks. Thomas Bates, of shorthorn fame, was one who studied this point to a successful degree. It is left on record by one who knew his cattle that "Belvedere and all his male heirs were as active as thoroughbred colts. The very calves seemed to have inherited a double dose of playfulness; the heifers came out, heads up, with a smart, half-wild outlook; the older cows with matchless stateliness, the bull like a thunderbolt." Bates was a student of character in his stock. He looked for it in his purchases and he fixed it in his herd. On the whole, indeed, our really constructive stock

breeders have been unrivalled, and there is no reason to suppose that for many a long day England will cease to be the source of the finest herds and flocks of the world.

Without going farther here into the question of the types of sheep and cattle at present required for our own markets, we may perhaps take a look at the kindred subject of pig production. It is no secret that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Dominions offices are at present discussing the possibilities of general co-operation with regard to meat supplies. The case of bacon production must, however, be treated on its own. The English producer can only regain his home markets, in spite of the help the National Government is able to give him, by bringing his organisation to the same high level of efficiency which has been reached by his rivals abroad. There is probably no branch of the agricultural industry in this country which offers greater scope for reorganisation, and this reorganisation must necessarily embrace the whole of the industry. The Pig Industry Council, representing both pig breeders and curers, have now asked the Minister of Agriculture to appoint a Bacon Reorganisation Committee under the Agricultural Marketing Act, and there seems to be no doubt that this will be done at once. There are no inherent difficulties in making this country more self-supporting than at the present, and the fact that over forty million pounds are spent abroad for the importation of pig products is in itself a sufficient incentive to make the problem worth tackling. Success will be dependent upon all the partners in the industry pulling their proper and equal weight. In the meantime the duty lies with the pig breeder to dispel the legend that this country does not possess pigs of suitable bacon type. Consistency in putting on the market a standardised product has greatly helped to place the Scandinavian pig industry on its present sound foundations.

The Government's part of the business will obviously be to devise a workable quota scheme for controlling imports of bacon, but under treaty obligations at present the introduction of such a quota scheme must be accompanied by a similar regulation of home supplies. British pig breeders must be in a position to supply the deficiency produced by the quota. Mr. Alec Hobson, secretary of the National Pig Breeders' Association, addressing the Tring Agricultural Discussion Society recently on the development of pig production in this country, urged that the time was not ripe for the erection of more co-operative bacon factories. The existing ones must first be fully utilised. Limitation of breeds might bring about greater uniformity, but any attempt to force the pace would only create difficulties. It would be better to build on the existing foundations of the best of our pedigree herds, and, given closer co-operation between farmer, butcher and curer, the breed question would right itself by the survival of the fittest. It is certainly difficult to agree with a policy of "one breed and one breed only," for the whole history of stock breeding shows us that cross-breeding is sound both in theory and practice. In any case, there is no question of the industry's capacity for expansion, with the pig as prolific as she is and bacon factories working only to half production.

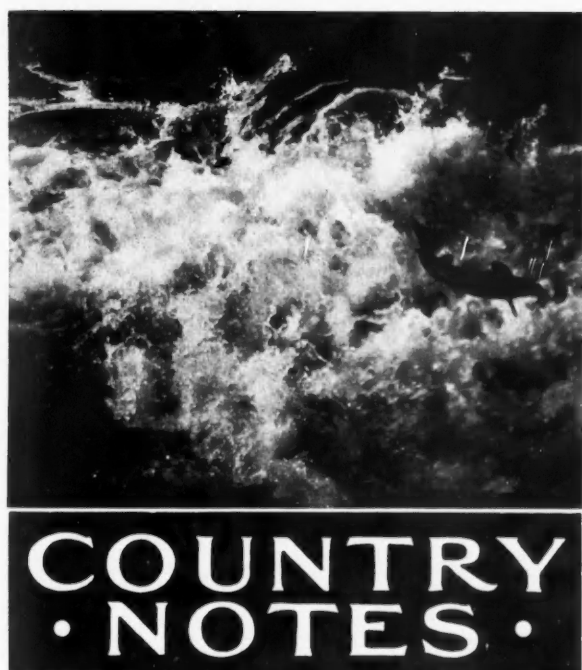
Our Frontispiece

OUR frontispiece this week is a portrait of Miss Betty Lutyens, third daughter of Sir Edwin and Lady Emily Lutyens, and a composer of great promise. Her ballet written round Oscar Wilde's story, "The Infanta's Birthday," a brilliant piece of work, was first given orchestrally by the Patron's Fund at the Royal College of Music, and recently at the Karsavina *matinée* at the Savoy Theatre with Penelope Spencer as principal dancer and choreographer.

EDITORIAL NOTICE

The Editor will be glad to consider any MSS., photographs and sketches submitted to him, if accompanied by stamped addressed envelope for return, if unsuitable.

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COUNTRY • NOTES •

A DISCONCERTING EASTER

THIS year, with Easter falling so early, we shall grow more than usually impatient for the spring. For, unconsciously and illogically, we date spring's arrival from the Easter holiday, oblivious of whether it comes in the third week of April, or, as this year, in the last week of March. Only this past week-end has winter shown any sign of loosening his tenacious grip. But the hard, clear days of sunshine which have been with us all these weeks have done much to make amends for biting winds and frosts. There is time yet for March, who, until now, has only shown his lion-like quality, to go out like the proverbial lamb. For the farmer, too, who is beginning to find the prolonged drought a serious matter, it is early in the year to start his age-long grouse against the weather. Did not old Bacon say, "A dry March and a dry May portend a wholesome summer, if there be a showering April between"? None the less, the thousands who will take their Easter holiday this year, prepared for the worst, but hoping for the best, are beginning to wonder when it will be possible to decide on a fixed Easter that does really mark the coming of spring. In the House of Lords last week the Archbishop of Canterbury stated that there was virtual unanimity among nearly all educational, commercial and religious interests. Only the Holy See still persists in its traditional attitude.

CAMBRIDGE AGAIN.

AN impartial spectator of the Boat Race, if such a person exists, must have felt his feelings strictly divided between the hope that Oxford might at last win this year and the desire that Cambridge should equal the previously unattained Oxford record of having nine successive victories to their credit. Now that this cherished ambition has been fulfilled even the most ardent Light-Blue supporter must join in the hope that the long-deferred revival of Oxford rowing may be in sight. The Oxford crew had made such startling progress during the last week of training that it seemed possible that the race would be a close one and that, with a shortened course to cover, the unexpected might even happen; but once again they disappointed on the actual day, and after the first mile Cambridge had everything their own way. Though, perhaps, not the finest of the post-War crews which Cambridge has sent to Putney, few have shown such consistent form and perfect combination as this of 1932.

RURAL WILTSHIRE

WILTSHIRE is to be congratulated on forming a county branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. This was done last Saturday at a crowded meeting in Trowbridge at which Sir Ernest Wills took the chair, and Lord Bath, Lord Lansdowne, Sir Geoffrey

Fry and other leading county men gave their active support. Possibly as an indirect consequence of the back-bench opposition to the Town and Country Planning Bill, no fewer than four Ministers wrote to give the meeting their support, namely, Sir John Gilmour, Sir E. Hilton Young, Mr. Pybus and Mr. Ormesby Gore. As in the case of the parent body, the Wiltshire branch of the C.P.R.E. is made up of representatives of existing organisations and interests, from landowners and local authorities to farmers and archaeologists. It has for some time been desirable that Wiltshire should follow the lead of Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Bucks in forming its own Preservation Society, since, as Professor Vaughan Cornish pointed out, "exceptionally well informed taste is required in a county where the foundation of the scenery is the smoothly flowing line of the chalk downs, which is as vulnerable as it is delicate." Increased facilities of access and the coming of electrical power make urgent an enlightened body of opinion on matters of development.

IN GRATEFUL THANKS

TO A. DE N.

You came into the bare and useful room,
Oh Spanish señor of the frost-white hair.
And saw the ugly typewriter
And the papers and the books.
Yet you were different from the others:
You did not see an automaton
Sitting at the desk,
But a woman—
And you honoured her
Oh white-haired señor
By a courtly bow
Worthy of a princess.
Verily she was one—
For you had crowned her. JOYCE G. HOHNE.

THE CHESTER BEATTY COLLECTION

THE announcement that Mr. Chester Beatty has decided to bring up for auction his celebrated collection of Western manuscripts foreshadows one of the most important sales of its kind ever held. There has been no comparable event in the auction market since the dispersal of the Yates-Thompson collection which produced a total sum of £148,000, and the variety and magnificent quality of Mr. Chester Beatty's manuscripts suggest that this figure may well be equalled, or even exceeded. It is almost impossible to pick out from so unusually representative a collection even one or two of the treasures it contains, including, as it does, a splendid range of very early texts, many fine humanistic manuscripts, besides elaborately decorated examples of every period and school. Of early English manuscripts, however, may be mentioned the twelfth century Mostyn Gospels and the famous six leaves from a Psalter illuminated by William de Brailes, whose signature was discovered by Mr. Cockerell a few years ago. Two of the most splendid French manuscripts were at one time in Ruskin's library at Brantwood—a fourteenth century Book of Hours and the Beaupré Antiphoner, magnificently decorated with large historiated initials. The latter subsequently passed to Mr. Yates-Thompson's collection, several of whose treasures, acquired by Mr. Chester Beatty, will again come on to the market. The collection is to be dispersed by Messrs. Sotheby at a number of annual sales extending over four or five years, and the first sale is to take place early in June.

THE OLDEST RACE MEETING

A CURIOUS race was run at Kiplingcotes on the windswept Yorkshire wolds last week, in what is believed to be the oldest meeting in the country. It dates from 1519, nearly a century before the earliest meeting at Doncaster, though Chester might contest the claim for priority. Anyhow, Kiplingcotes dates from the period that is acknowledged to have seen the dawn of organised racing. Half of the course runs on the verge of the road between Kiplingcotes and Enthorpe railway stations. There were only two entrants, so that both horses were certain of a prize according to the ancient conditions of the race. But, owing to the difficult times in which we live, the second prize was larger than the first. The entrance fees of £4 5s., after small deductions, go to the second horse, so that

this year £8 was available. The first prize is derived from the interest of a fund invested in Consols, but, owing to income tax, it amounted this year to only £7 10s. To the honour of the entrants, there was no suggestion in the racing that it would pay better to lose than to win the race, though, from the spectators' point of view, it would certainly have been more amusing if the competitors had been more commercially minded.

THE SACK OF JERICO

IT is always fascinating to hear how archaeology confirms tradition, particularly in the case of the Bible stories. Last year evidence of the Flood was found, and now Sir Charles Marston has described the discovery at Tel el Amarna of "urgent letters" from Palestine imploring aid against the "Habiru." The tablets were sent by the governors of the cities of Palestine to their Egyptian suzerain, and request the despatch of soldiers and chariots against the army of invading warriors. The Habiru have been identified unmistakably as the Hebrews, and a date is given to their invasion by the Sack of Jericho, which, from various evidence, Professor John Garstang has narrowed down to 1407 B.C. The Pharaoh of the Exodus is known to have been Amenhotep II, who, according to Sir Flinders Petrie, came to the throne in 1447 B.C., which agrees exactly with the forty years' wandering of the Children of Israel. He was succeeded by Amenhotep III in 1423 B.C., and to him, presumably, the letters were addressed. It is possible, however, that the dating is not yet entirely accurate, and that the Jews did not reach Palestine till the reign of the heretic King Akhenaten, who founded the new capital of Tel el Amarna and was too busy with his new religion to attend to an invasion of an outlying protectorate. The one link needed to settle the dates is a tablet recording Pharaoh's reply, and Sir Charles said that hopes are entertained of discovering such a reply among the ruins of Jericho.

FAIRFORD CHURCH

THE number of parish churches in this country which have preserved their legacy of old stained glass can be counted on the fingers of one hand, and of them Fairford is by far the finest and most famous. But, quite apart from its magnificent windows, the church itself is a beautiful example of the great buildings raised by the Cotswold woolmen towards the close of the fifteenth century. Last summer an appeal was made for a fund to repair the oak roofs of the church, which were found to have been attacked by the death-watch beetle. The roofs of the chancel and porch have now been dealt with, but before further work can be carried out a sum of £2,000 will have to be obtained. It is hoped to proceed with the roof of the nave with as little delay as possible, and an especial appeal will shortly be launched to try and raise the money still required. The honorary secretary of the fund, Mr. E. Christian Young, Hall Croft, Fairford, will be glad to receive contributions from any who know this unique and beautiful church.

AN INTERNATIONAL FOREST

JASPER and Yellowstone Parks are known the world over as the great wild life reserves of Canada and the United States respectively, so that interest will be widely felt in a proposal for a joint "forest reserve" of ten million acres on the frontier between Lake Superior and Winnipeg. The area proposed is one of small lakes and virgin forest known as the Rainy Lake Basin; it is 180 miles long and 120 miles across, and one of the few parts of North America which remain practically as they were before the coming of the white man. The Ojibway Indians still wander about the forests, trapping and fishing, and propitiating Gitche Manito with offerings. Moose and red deer and fish abound. The frontier traverses the region, but already the Ontario and American Governments have set aside large adjoining areas totalling two and a half million acres as national forests, with strong regulations for their preservation—a move remarkable in the history of international relations for having been accomplished without any formal treaty. The initiative for expanding these adjacent parks into a huge international reserve of wild life comes from the Canadian and American Legions, who envisage the forest as a peace memorial. As a check to the appallingly rapid

deforestation of America, the proposal has everything to recommend it, quite apart from the vast opportunities it presents for recreation and the preserving of aboriginal fauna.

STANDLAKE RECTORY

ALAS! our houses and gardens of idyllic peace and beauty grow fewer and fewer, and the death of the Rev. Thomas Lovett of Standlake Rectory must mean the passing of another haven of unaffected culture. Only a dozen yards of lawn separate Standlake Rectory, with its oak panelling, its fine old furniture and its priceless china, from one branch of the river Windrush, the running water adding the final fascination to a perfect Cotswold house and garden. But, more important still, only a dozen miles separate it from Oxford, and from numerous undergraduates just beginning to appreciate the villages and the country houses of England, and to assimilate the taste of those who are the guardians of their natural charms. It was among the supporters of the New College and Magdalen and of the Christ Church Beagles that the Rector (a bachelor "younger son") found a continual supply of new acquaintances, thenceforth his friends for the rest of that life which has now, unhappily, come to an end. But to all undergraduates he was "the Uncle," and there never existed a more kindly and hospitable relative, whether real or adopted. Of late years he was not an active sportsman, but he was equally happy whether watching undergraduate attempts to catch a Windrush trout, entertaining a group of beagling enthusiasts at one of his sumptuous dinner parties, lunching in an Oxford college, or modestly displaying to some new-found friend the attractions of his house and garden.

I KNOW IT SPRING

I know it Spring when first I see
The outline of a young larch tree
Clear drawn against a quiet sky;
With the new moon serene on high,
Bending her bow of palest gold
Upon the young lambs in the fold,
Whose fleeces are as white as snow;
And on ploughed lands where green blades show.
I know it Spring, though cold and clear,
Comes cruellest frost of all the year.
I know it Spring, because to-day,
I heard the blackbird, sweet and gay,
Call out again and yet again;
And violet leaves were in the lane.
I know it Spring because I found
A snowdrop pushing through the ground.

I only pray that Death may bring
Some sudden gladness, like the Spring.

AVERYL EDWARDS.

"DON'T WRITE—TELEGRAPH"

THE president of the City of London Tradesmen's Club, Mr. Mockford, has lately been making the members' flesh creep by very interesting stories of American hustle. The telegram, he pointed out, has been by no means exterminated by the telephone, and is constantly and widely used for advertising purposes. On one day in Chicago a single big store handed in 60,000 messages to be sent to their customers, actual and prospective, and this is apparently nothing out of the ordinary. This seems to add a new terror to life, for there is nothing on the envelope of a telegram as there is often on that of a circular, and even the most casual person must read the contents. It is hard to imagine anything more infuriating than a succession of telegrams, the first perhaps bidding us buy somebody's soap and the second insisting that we use no other. It was also at Chicago that the president watched a young lady in a big office dealing with cablegrams. Five rapidly moving belts poured their messages off in front of her, and she had then to distribute them among seven other belts which would take them to different parts of the office. Those that were very urgent were handed to a boy on roller skates, who shot away with them like a streak of lightning. He sounds much the pleasantest and most human feature of the whole affair, and how other little boys must envy him his job!

ANOTHER GRAND NATIONAL

FALLS, REFUSALS AND INTERFERENCE; AN UNSATISFACTORY RACE



THE SCENE AT BECHER'S BROOK; FIRST TIME ROUND IN THE GRAND NATIONAL

It is not easy to know quite where to begin this necessarily abridged summary of the chief happenings in the first week of the flat racing season. There is so much to say and so little space in which to say it. I shall leave Lincoln for the moment and come at once to the subject of the Grand National. In point of interest the race for the Lincolnshire Handicap was puny by comparison.

Thirty-six horses trooped out of the Paddock at Liverpool. They were in the order of their weights on the card, and so it happened that three past winners led the parade. There was the leading horse, Gregalach, the winner of three years ago at 100 to 1, when only ten out of sixty-six starters completed the course. He looked well now and he had the confidence of the people behind him, especially of his trainer, Percy Woodland, who, in his riding days, was twice successful on Grand National winners.

Then came Shaun Goilin, the winner of two years ago, and not so very much fancied. He is the oldest of the trio, exceeding by two years the age of Gregalach and Grakle. He was destined, as it happened, to be one of the eight to complete the course; but, though he must be given credit for that, there was, nevertheless, something of the old man about his showing.

Then there was the previous year's winner, Grakle, in whom, as all the world knows, there was very great belief that he was going to emulate the feat of The Colonel sixty-two years ago and win the race for the second year in succession. Certainly he carried himself like a prospective history maker, for he was bigger, stronger, and heavier than ever before. He was equal

first favourite with the Irish mare Heartbreak Hill. She came sixth in the long procession with the big French horse, Coup de Chapeau, and Inverse intervening.

I admired Heartbreak Hill quite a lot. She is so strong and was so sensible and keen looking. Perhaps if she were not quite so keen at the outset of her races she would be better. She is apt to take too much out of herself, and not leave enough in reserve when the pressure is really turned on. Looking back on this fantastic "National" it is possible she was specially unlucky.

She completed the course notwithstanding she was concerned with the first *contretemps* that baulked Grakle and others. She, too, was baulked, to lose precious ground.

Others down the line were noticed as they first walked and then turned to canter by, but I confess I paid scant attention to the eighteen horses making up the second half of the procession, each having identically the same weight of 10st. 7lb. because the handicapper was not permitted to give some of them less. Thus the horse which was destined to win, Forbra, went unnoticed by me until the time, a few minutes later, when he forced himself on the attention of every onlooker.

I have no doubt the story of the race is by this time familiar to most readers, and I shall do no more here than linger over a few special impressions. I know I stood astonished again at the great pace they went from the moment of the start. In the mad and crazy rush to get a front place, obviously in order to minimise risk of interference at the first few fences, the jockeys asked their horses to gallop as hard as they could put their legs to the ground. Grakle was caught up in the swirl, and if he



Forbra (J. Hamey up), the winner of the Grand National (nearest camera), and Egremont (second) jumping Becher's Brook the second time round

was doing any thinking at the time it must have been resentment at such rough treatment.

Yet all but one got over the fence which is rightly one of the least difficult on the course. It was at the third fence—an open ditch, rail and fence—that several, including Vinicole, said good-bye to the hurricane business. Gregalach had been rushed into a place near the front, and it was as they came across our front, on turning left-handed from Becher's, that I made out the leader to be Forbra. The line by this time was not only thinned out but strung out. Becher's had been busy again.

They came to the second fence past Valentine's, a particularly nasty one. Forbra, Egremont and one or two others, including Gregalach, had gone on. Suddenly we saw several horses turning back from it as if beginning a race in the other direction. One was Grakle. You could see that from the vivid orange colours, the best of all colours to see in any light. We were to learn that the riderless Pelorus Jack, lacking the sense to drop out after falling just beyond Becher's, had run up to the fence just in front of a group of oncoming horses. First one refused and then others copied the example. Grakle, as I have said, was one of them. So, also, was Heartbreak Hill, and they were among those that had to be turned back in order to be given another run at the fence.

Let me finish with Grakle now. As Forbra and Egremont came first over the water, followed by K.C.B. (who fell heavily here), Near East, Annandale and Shaun Goulin, there was a fatal mix-up at the big ditch just before the water. Prince Cherry, I think, it was that hesitated, and Grakle seemed glad of an excuse to do the same. That was how he passed out along with three more at the same spot.

I shall not follow them right round the second circuit, but pick them up again as the astonishing leaders were turned from home. Both Forbra and Egremont were clear of any other, and I realised that, bar an accident, one or the other would win. It was at such a moment that one had time to think of the *débâcle* out of which two utterly unconsidered ones were surviving to



W. A. Rouch

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THE NOVICE WINNER OF THE GRAND NATIONAL Forbra by Foresight—Thymbra

Annandale would certainly have been third but for toppling over at the last fence, and, though he came in a long way behind the winner, Sea Soldier did at any rate complete the course, even though he finished last of the eight. You see he was left so far behind that he was able to jump without interference.

Forbra is only a seven year old that until this season was really a novice to steeplechasing. He had done some good over hurdles, but we shall long remember him as the horse that only just managed to qualify to start according to the conditions, and then was able to win the Grand National without having had a sight of the fences before. No wonder the starting price was 50 to 1. I cannot understand why the odds were not much longer than that, or why Egremont should have been at such a comparatively short price as 33 to 1.

Forbra's owner, Mr. Parsonage, is a retired starting price bookmaker and a very good sort who is genuinely fond of his horses. For several years he tried to win the Grand National with Master Billie, a horse I never liked. Forbra is young enough to have another triumph in him. He has done with the 10st. 7lb. mark, it is true. The only thing against him next year will be that sixty-three years will have elapsed since a horse won the race two years in succession.

I may add about Forbra that he is trained in Worcestershire by Tom Rimell, and that he was bred in this country. His sire, Foresight, I fancy, was a short-distance horse when owned by

fight it out. Yet these leaders and their riders were deserving of honours. Fence after fence they jumped almost dead level, and one knew they must be tiring.

Forbra really settled it at the second fence from home. That one and the last he jumped as a fresh horse would have done. They were really splendid jumps, and Hamley, the jockey, told me afterwards that the horse had given him a "marvellous" ride but that the horse had not jumped any fence quite so perfectly as he did the last two. Gallantly, Egremont and the good fellow on his back, Mr. E. C. Paget, struggled; indeed the latter would not accept defeat until it was all over and he had lost by three lengths.



THE FINISH OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP

Won by Mr. A. E. McKinley's Jerome Fandor (W. Christie up), 28, from Mr. B. Davis's Dooley (F. Sharpe up), 34, second, and Captain A. Stanley Wilson's Knight Error (John Doyle up), 13, third

Lord Fitzwilliam, but he came of a stout line of blood. He was by Carbine. The dam, Thymbra, was by Rochester from a Polymelus mare, so that in Forbra's case the breeding is unusually good for a Grand National winner.

It would be absurd to say that this latest Grand National was a satisfactory affair except to all connected with the winner. How could it possibly be, with so many horses put out of it by falls, refusals, or interference? No doubt many of them had no pretensions to tackle the big fences, and I am sure the riding was very moderate. I do not think we shall ever see another Grand National which will be really satisfactory, while steeplechasers, on the whole, are deteriorating, riders specialise on speed and gamble on luck, and the fences remain as they are,

monuments to the good horses and the good horsemen of old.

The race to which I have given nearly all my space followed on still another disastrous Lincolnshire Handicap. It was won by a four year old named Jerome Fandor at 40 to 1, in the colours of a Scotsman and trained for him in Yorkshire. The horse had not won a race since a two year old. Dooley, the second, only won one race last year. He started at 33 to 1. Knight Error won only one race in 1931, the Lincolnshire Handicap. A trial had shown him to be inferior at the weights to Knight of the Vale, and so his starting price was 50 to 1. All the greatly fancied horses, including an extraordinarily short-priced favourite in Zanoff, were simply mown down. There never was such a slaughter. Human understanding was never so outraged and humiliated.

PHILIPPOS.

WOODLAND HOLES

By BERNARD DARWIN

IF we imagine some long dead and gone golfer revisiting the earth to watch the moderns at play, I suppose nothing would surprise him more than to see us playing among woods and openly rejoicing over glades between the fir trees as compared with open downs. He would regard a tree as a horrid thing not to be found on any properly constituted golf course, and moreover, being, as I conceive of him, a canny Scotsman, he would be aghast at the expense of blasting and hacking in the forests in order to make a fairway.

I trust I am not doing an injustice, in point of history, to some other course when I name the New Zealand course at Byfleet as the first among these woodland courses that are to-day so typical of Surrey. I know that it astonished as much as it fascinated me when I first saw it about 1898. It had then existed some three years. Working was more or less contemporary and had a number of trees, but only in clumps and not in avenues. There was a lovely avenue at Cassiobury Park, and no doubt there were one or two others; but, generally speaking, the time of the glade course, if I may so term it, was not yet. To-day we have got perfectly well accustomed to them, and though we may still argue that a tree is a bad hazard—that the ball flies off its trunk too entirely on the wings of chance, and so on—yet, in fact, we think that some woodland holes add a spice both of beauty and excitement to an inland course, and we are glad to see them. Never have I been more struck with what a few holes in the wood can do for a golf course than when, a few days ago, I revisited Sundridge Park. Anybody who has travelled down the Southern Railway must have seen one or two of the old Sundridge holes as his train drew near to Chislehurst Station, and he may have thought that they did not look particularly thrilling. He may even have irreverently murmured to himself the lines about the Grand Old Duke of York who marched his men "up to the top of the hill and marched them down again." But all sorts of exciting things have been happening at Sundridge Park, and all that is changed. There has been a fusion with the Elmstead Club next door, who played in the park round the imposing Palladian house which is now an hotel. Already there are two courses, and when the woodland holes are completed, the less good holes of old Sundridge will be dropped in their favour and there will be two really engaging courses cheek by jowl.

I am not going into details of the whole two courses, both because I might be a statistical bore and also because I might get the numbers of the holes wrong: but I will try to say something of the woods. With Randall, the professional, acting as my kind pilot, I walked the regular first two holes of Sundridge, and then, turning right-handed, was suddenly in the new country. The first of the new holes is, if I may so describe it, no more than a conduit pipe to conduct us to the hilltop, and then what a lovely view, astonishingly green and countrified, with such houses as are visible mellowed and obscured by a touch of friendly mist. I found myself in sandy, gravelly country, in a wood of rhododendrons which must be quite gorgeous in summer, and, teeing on its edge, played, in imagination, a nice short hole. Then came Botany Bay. That really is the old name of a dear little hollow with woods on all sides of it; more rhododendrons, bluebells by the acre at the right time, and, as an additionally romantic touch, one of those absurd but entrancing sham ruins, which our ancestors loved, looking down upon it. The green nestles at the bottom of Botany Bay, but before we get there we have got to drive very straight between woods on either side (with a pond to catch a slice), and then turn at right angles to the right for a long second, and there will still be a little pitch remaining. The real tiger will, no doubt, try to get home in two, but he is not meant to do so; the green is so cunningly tucked away that his tigerishness will defeat its own end, and I, with my steady-going five, shall win the hole against his angry six and laugh at him.

After Botany Bay came two short holes in succession; this is not normally an ideal plan, but the nature of the ground makes it necessary, and both have an amusingly fiendish quality. One of them has got the most precipitous slope on the right-hand side that ever I saw, such as will produce a permanent complex in the slicer's mind. The other seems as innocent as can be, as seen from the teeing ground, but look a little more closely and you will see that this harmless green is really a monticle with a Gadarene descent, not on one side, but on all sides, and at the bottom of the descent there is always a thicket of rhododendrons. It would be altogether too blood curdling if some pockets had not been skilfully made in the slopes. They will save the ball from complete perdition, but will make it very hard work to get a four. After that hole comes a change in the woods and we play between avenues of slim, straight young birches and then, more is the pity, we come down to earth again. But what a wonderful difference those few holes among the trees have made! They lift the course on altogether a different plane. They let the old bad holes be cut out, they add prettiness and variety, and, in short, they make a very good and pleasant course of it.

The No. 2 course, that was Elmstead, seemed both good and pleasant, too, but I confess that I did not walk the whole length of it, for looking at golf courses produces the same sensations in the hind legs as does looking at pictures, and I felt a yearning for lunch. This course does not go into the woodland country but circles round it, and I had a second view of Botany Bay from a different angle. The ground rises and falls agreeably and there are fine single trees, and it is a wonderfully rustic and pretty place for golf, though so near the clutches of the octopus of Bromley.

To come back for a moment to the general question of woodland or glade holes, it is singular what a different effect they have on different players. One who is used to the ample spaces of a seaside course may feel himself terribly cramped and frightened by them, whereas those who know them well are positively aided by that framework of trees on either hand: it seems to help them to put their feet in the right places and to get a good line for the stroke. They, in turn, grow frightened when they get to open courses. One class suffers from claustrophobia, the other from agoraphobia. I can think of two golfers who played habitually between the two black and menacing lines of heather at Walton Heath. When they came to a course on which the rough, being only thick grass, was of much the same colour as the fairway, they felt that they had lost their bearings and wandered far and wide accordingly. Often, I think, a single lone tree or a clump of two or three can be much more mesmerically attractive to the ball than a solid wall of wood. There are, by way of example, those two fine trees—I think it is two—that stand on the right of the course at the seventeenth hole at Stoke Poges; there is a whole parish to drive into on the left, and yet how often we slice under the branches of that one big elm in particular. Just because we consciously aim away from a single tree we are the more likely, it seems, to reach it, whereas in a glade there is nothing for it but to aim straight down the middle. A solitary tree right in the middle of the course is the most fatally alluring of all: let there be acres on either side of it, straight for that tree we go, as if drawn by a magnet. Perhaps that is because we never really name the stroke in our own minds. We wait to see on which side of the tree the ball comes to rest and then pretend to ourselves that that was the side we meant to go. The idea is, of course, utterly sacrilegious and absurd, but I sometimes think it would be amusing to have just one tree bang in the middle of the vast expanse which stretches before us at the first and last holes at St. Andrews. It would not survive long but would be hacked into firewood by the myriad niblicks of its victims.

Famous Hunts and their Countries

THE OAKLEY



PART OF THE OAKLEY FIELD MOVING OFF FROM A MEET AT ASTWOOD, NEAR BEDFORD

"HUNT in a plough country? I would sooner read a book!" is the intelligent remark attributed to a Meltonian of a former age. Out of his own mouth, of course, he proclaimed that his education had been neglected, but doubtless his devotion to the Chase was intended to make amends. With that devotion as his only interest, his addled brain would probably have been better developed by hunting in a plough country than actually by reading a book. For the experience and the brainwork of other fox hunters—such as might be expected in this case to arouse a sympathetic glimmer—are displayed in few places so clearly as in the plough countries. Reputations cannot there be made by executing dazzling casts over a succession of big fences. Nor is a check on a dry fallow to be solved merely by holding hounds on into the next field. For the next field has probably just the same surface, and so has the one beyond that. If the hounds cannot run on, then the huntsman is obliged to use his eyes and his ears, and—exhausting process!—his brain. On the Turf and under the turf, they say, all men are equal; but on the plough, thank Heaven, there are supermen, and they alone, through mud or through dust, can regularly catch the plough country foxes.

After this preamble it would be logical to introduce the Oakley as a regular plough country. But, as a matter of fact, the senior Joint-Master of the Oakley Hounds denies that his country is now to be so described. When he first succeeded to it in 1904, he says, it was indeed a plough country; but now, with wheat at 25s. a quarter, so much of it has been laid down, or has fallen down, to grass that it has lost its old character. It would

be impudent to disagree with him, but, as a matter of fact, there is still in the Oakley country a large proportion of plough apparent to the visitor, and its character can hardly be so soon changed, even though some of its wheat has given place to twitch. Admittedly its northern end has always contained a good leavening of grassland, for does it not march with the Shires? Its neighbours are, in fact, the Pytchley, the Fitzwilliam, the Cambridge-shire, the Hertfordshire, the Whaddon Chase and the Grafton, on the edges nearest to Rushden, Kimbolton, St. Neots, Amphill, Leighton Buzzard and Olney respectively.

Time was when Woburn, the seat of the Dukes of Bedford, played a very important part in ordering the affairs of the Hunt. In fact, in the eighteenth century the only fox hunting in the present Oakley country was provided by the private pack of the Russell family, who had another seat at Oakley, on the Ouse three or four miles north of Bedford. When the pack first became established with a regular country, about 1800, it was known (if local tradition is reliable) as the Oakley and Tavistock (to include the second title of the Dukes of Bedford), and to this

day it has the distinction of a ducal coronet on its Hunt button. But the connection lasted longer than that, for the seventh Duke of Bedford was Master of approximately the present country from 1809-16, from 1822-29, and from 1836-41. So it was certainly the Russells who established the Oakley as a fox-hunting country. But it is another family which has been largely responsible for its records of good sport in the last eighty years, and to which it is indebted for its exceptionally fine pack of hounds. Mr. Robert Arkwright took the Oakley Hounds in 1850, and since that date the pack



CAPT. E. F. W. ARKWRIGHT
Joint-Master of the Oakley Foxhounds



AT A MEET
Major Randall and Miss Mitchell



AT ASTWOOD
Mr. F. Thompson (Hon. Secretary), Mr. C. W. Phipps, and
Mrs. Percy Bull

has never been dispersed, nor has the reputation of the country ever declined. He continued as sole Master until 1876, and as Joint-Master until 1885. Then nineteen seasons later (in 1904) his grandson, Captain Esmé Arkwright, succeeded to the mastership. He resigned in 1915, for obvious reasons, but in 1921 he was again elected to the post for which he is so eminently suited, and, having been sole Master until last spring, his responsibility is now shared by Captain B. M. Hudson.

But we must cast back, for once, to the geography. Is it clear that the Oakley country adjoins those of the Grafton, the Fitzwilliam and the Cambridgeshire? Then that trio will serve to emphasise the woodland, the grass and the plough areas. Between Olney and Rushden lie Yardley Chase and a number of other big coverts, of which some are neutral with the Grafton and all resemble the Grafton woodlands, which we were discussing last month, in that they are well ridged, well preserved and stocked with good bold foxes. Moreover, much of the intervening country is grass, with sound fences and no wire. North-east of this woodland area, on the Kimbolton or Fitzwilliam side, lies a great deal of old, and most of the new, grass—well farmed, well stocked and again fenced with very attractive quickset fences. There are some big coverts at Melchbourne and Kimbolton, but in general this side is open, and can confidently be relied upon to show sport of the most exhilarating nature. The rest of the country, between Newport Pagnell and St. Neots (where it joins the Cambridgeshire), is essentially plough land. No doubt there is more grass now than there was twenty years ago, but laying down land to grass costs money, for fencing and often for water, and where grass farming is also a doubtful livelihood, unless the land is abandoned, the plough still maintains its traditional struggle with the weeds.

The Newport Pagnell side (west of Bedford) still looks as if all hope had not yet departed. But there is an area north-east of Bedford, between the kennels (at Milton Ernest) and St. Neots, which really presents an extraordinary appearance. It seems that it has always suffered from having no water supply, and that to this day its inhabitants are discouraged from drinking water—if, indeed, any such discouragement is needed by those only too anxious to drown their farming sorrows—by ditch-water alone being available. That, of course, did not affect its prosperity in the palmy days of wheat farming, but now, since stock must have water, there is practically nothing that it can produce at a profit.

How its few residents earn their daily bread is a mystery. It is gloomy to see any country derelict, but yet there is something strangely fascinating about this particular tract. Man, at least, has never spoiled it. It is still wild, and since no building or development has been effected there for a great many years, the farmhouses are invariably old and picturesque, and in many cases a moat adds beauty—if not beverage. But from a fox-hunting point of view derelict land, with its rank weeds and its numerous outlying foxes, is never satisfactory. In this area there is no wire, for there is not, nor ever has been, any stock to need it. Nor are there any very large coverts. But even so it does not seem to have earned a greater reputation for sport than other parts of the Oakley country—another instance of the fact that good farming and good fox hunting go hand in hand.

In forming the present beautiful and highly efficient Oakley pack, Captain Arkwright has had, of course, the tremendous advantage of a firm foundation on which to work, for the pack has an uninterrupted descent from the hounds collected by his grandfather in 1850, and, indeed, practically every hound in the kennel is said to trace to a bitch called Crony, entered in 1857. But it is a very skilful admixture of outside blood which has raised the pack to its present pitch of excellence. As in all other great packs, it is the interweaving of three or four really fine strains which is the secret. Out of rather fewer than fifty couples in kennel, about twenty-two couples are descended from Caroline (1923), who has a beautiful Oakley pedigree, with no external blood until the third generation back, with three lines to Oakley Rhymer (1907), and tracing eventually to Belvoir, Berkeley, Grafton and Heythrop. More than twenty couples are descended from Roderick or his sister Rosemary (1921), who miss the Rhymer blood, but have several strains in common with Caroline, and also introduce Oakley Satrap (1914), by Grafton Sampler (1911), by Hertfordshire Sampler (1905). But the introduction of the invaluable third strain is due to the Master of the South and West Wilts, with whom Captain Arkwright is heavily in league. That strain is supplied by Mr. David Davies's Banker (1924), a very light-coloured hound with tremendous drive and mettle. He is not, as might be supposed, a Welshman, but through his grandsire, Mr. Currie's Bloater (1917), inherits a great deal of splendid Itton blood, and elsewhere is closely bred to Tivvyside Woodman (1904) and other Tivvyside strains which, like the old Itton strains, go back to Mr. Lord Phillips's



AT A MEET AT GIBRALTAR
Mrs. Galbraith, Captain B. M. Hudson (Joint-Master), and C. Abbotts (whipper-in)



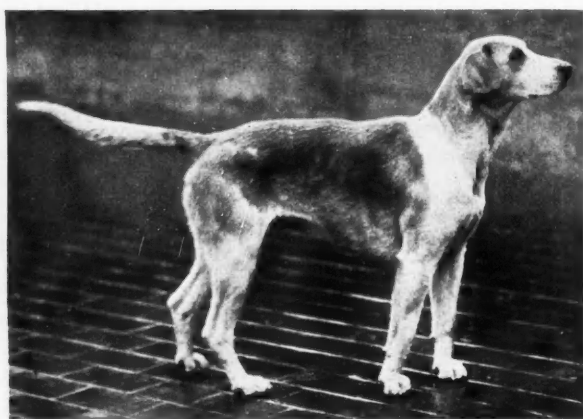
GOLDSMITH (1931)
Champion doghound at Peterborough Show, 1931

pack—a wonderfully consistent piece of hound breeding. Banker's progeny have done wonders in the Oakley country. They are, perhaps, rather lighter built than the representatives in the kennel of more classically bred sires, but no day is too long for them (except a non-hunting day), and their noses and their drive carry them at the head of the pack no matter what the scenting conditions.

The accompanying illustration of Bailiff (1929), by Banker out of a daughter of Rosemary, will give some idea of the type, with its beautiful neck and shoulders, and just the right amount of substance to carry a heart, a nose, a brain and a voice. What else does a fox-catcher need—except teeth?

As regards other external strains the kennel is much indebted to the Taunton Vale, mainly through their Truant (1926), of whose sons Trojan (1929) is one of the very best; to the Meynell mainly through Cardigan (1926), by Meynell Student (1921)—Caroline; to the Duke of Beaufort's; to the Old Berks; and last, but not least, to that fount of inspiration and good foxhound blood, the South and West Wilts establishment. It will be remembered that Captain

Arkwright last summer celebrated his presidency of Peterborough Foxhound Show by providing the champion dog hound and the champion bitch. The former was Goldsmith (1931), by S. and W. Wilts Gosling (1925)—Canopy (1925, by Roderick—Caroline). The latter was Housemaid (1929), by Daystar (1926), by Derwent Darter (1920)—Hopeful (1924, Wynnstay bred). These, then, are the "Peterborough hounds" of the present day. Admittedly they cannot be bred in a hurry, but is there a better ideal? If so, let it advance its claims. Meanwhile the opportunity of seeing such hounds at Peterborough is doing good to the cause of fox hunting.



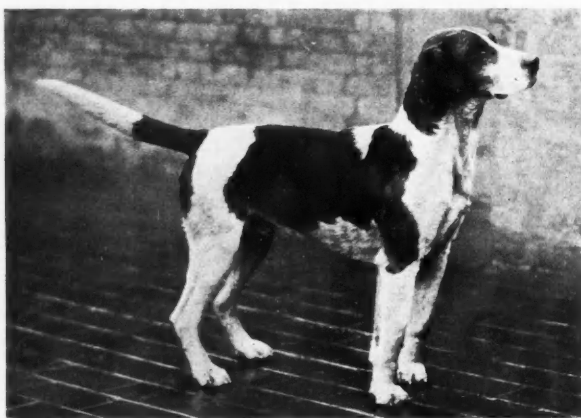
BAILIFF (1929)
Typical of the Oakley breeding of recent years

Captain Hudson, of course, who hunts the doghounds, is only just beginning on that science of hunting hounds of which Captain Arkwright has made a study for twenty years, so that comparisons do not enter into the subject at all. But there is nothing original in saying that there is no finer plough country huntsman in the kingdom than the senior Joint-

Master of the Oakley, and anyone wishing to learn how to hunt the fox could scarcely do better than try to analyse his methods. Is the secret to presume that the fox is a good one? Or is it that good hounds make good foxes, or rather exterminate bad ones? Is it the hounds who make the huntsman, or the huntsman who makes the hounds? Which came first—chicken or egg? Actually, of course, the various elements develop together. A good huntsman and a good pack of hounds usually seem to be hunting a good fox. At any rate at a check they do not look for him in the nearest fence—the horsemen can safely be trusted to fall on him if he is waiting there. Moreover, they are invariably supported by good farmers and

loyal subscribers. Is it that the ploughs allow time to think and to appreciate? At any rate, establish in a plough country some active brains, steeped in fox hunting and loyalty to their own neighbourhood, and they will found a tradition of sport, not, perhaps, of that meteoric type which occasionally dazzles the Shires, but under the less exacting conditions of pace, longer and more satisfying; not, perhaps, with the sparkle of a sip of champagne, but with the glow of port wine. And, as a great medical authority has said, "Two bottles of port is the best of all wine."

M. F.



TROJAN (1929)



HOMESPUN (1931), HOUSEMAID (1929), CAPTIVE AND CAUTIOUS (1929)
Housemaid (left centre), was champion bitch at Peterborough Show, 1931

AT THE THEATRE

THE ARTS LEAGUE OF SERVICE



BOURREE AND GIGUE

SOME years ago a number of well-intentioned civic worthies, or possibly unworthies, proposed to form a society which should be entitled the Friends of Art. A circular soliciting membership was sent out, and among the first persons to receive it was that distinguished playwright, Mr. Allan Monkhouse, author of "The Conquering Hero." Mr. Monkhouse replied: "Certainly not. We are all friends of art. You might as well ask if I want to be enrolled as a member of the human race!" In defence of Mr. Monkhouse it should be said that nobody has ever been readier to do art a good turn, provided the turn was of a feasible and practical nature. The proclaimed object of "The Arts League of Service" is "to bring the arts into everyday life," to which it might reasonably be objected that they are there already. Everybody who treads on a carpet, sits on a chair, or looks at his wallpaper is brought into contact with something in the making of which art has had its share, although the seaside lodging house may suggest that in these matters the counsels of art have been but modestly observed. But the Arts League of Service was rightly not content with a nebulous formula which might permit it to do everything or, when it felt lazy, nothing. Of its own accord it boiled down high-sounding pretension to the simple and honest, yet exceedingly intricate and laborious, job of providing a theatre for such parts of this country as cannot in the nature of things provide one for themselves. That a man must live marooned in the Mendips, water-logged in the fens, or land-logged on Shap Fell, does not mean that he has no taste for the theatre. It is equally obvious that a theatre situated in the middle of Sussex downs, Gloucestershire wolds, and Yorkshire moors, could not exist on the admiration, however passionate, of a handful of villagers. The difficulty seemed insoluble until the League solved it Columbus-fashion with the notion of sending a theatre on the road. The experiment, which first started in 1919, was an instantaneous and immense success. A recent experience of Mr. James Agate has a direct bearing on the question of the amount of interest taken in the theatre by persons residing permanently outside what one might call the playgoing area. Mr. Agate is the dramatic critic of the B.B.C., and in his last talk he asked listeners living in small towns and remote villages to say whether they were or were not interested in wireless talks about the theatre. He received 5,335 replies, some of them from villages not to be located on any map and happened upon only by travellers who have lost their way. Of these, 5,299 were enthusiastically in favour of the continuance of the talks, thirty-six listeners said that they regarded the theatre as a bore, and of these nine implied that Mr. Agate was himself a bore since they did not desire to hear him again upon any subject under the sun.



"HI ROGER RUM."—Student Song

Where the League deserves our best admiration is in this, that, having discovered a genuine æsthetic want, it proceeded to satisfy it along æsthetic lines and not on the lower plane of mere entertainment values. Had the objects of the League been merely vulgar it would have been content to take three or four companies of seaside pierrots and remove them from the seaside. Under the direction of Miss Eleanor Elder the League has carefully avoided that kind of Sunday-night entertainment popular in Bloomsbury cellars and Chelsea attics, and indeed it is to be imagined that a programme which largely consisted of a *farouche* young woman dressed or undressed as Salomé and ogling a platter, if it had inaugurated itself at, say, Pevensey would at Pevensey have been compelled to wind itself up. The decadent is not the soil for that which has yet to grow, and therefore the League for its programmes has always sought inspiration not in foreign hothouses but in native country air. It would be tedious to enumerate the places visited by the League; indeed, any gazetteer will do. Broadly, one may say that the ten or eleven players who constitute the company during a tour, of thirty-five weeks in the year travel some 18,000 miles, giving some 370 performances in 250 towns and villages, including fishing villages in the Scottish Highlands and some of the industrial cities of the north. To do this they have used one motor lorry, which has carried from place to place their scenery and illusion. Thus in one week the League has visited Kirkby Lonsdale, Kendal, Ambleside, Whitehaven, Settle, Grasmere, Seascale. Another week it has visited Rosyth, St. Andrews, Dundee, Brechin, Cupar. It has produced all sorts of plays, by such authors as Clifford Bax, Gordon Bottomley, John Galsworthy, Lady Gregory, Laurence Housman, John Masefield, A. A. Milne, Molière, Allan Monkhouse, Bernard Shaw, J. M. Synge, Tchekov, W. B. Yeats. It has

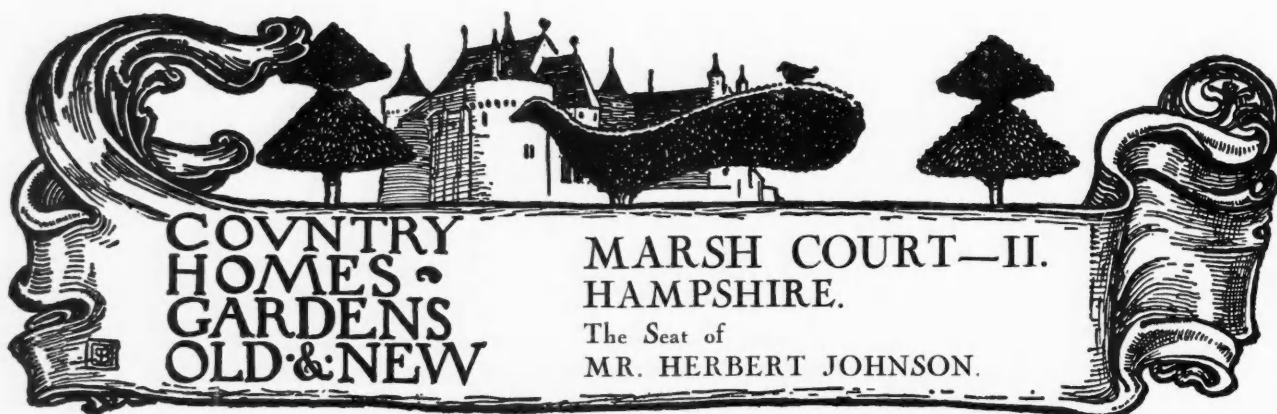


"SEARCHING FOR LAMBS"

—Folk Song

had such brilliant producers as W. G. Fay, Leslie Banks, A. E. Filmer, Reginald Denham, Ernest Milton, and Miss Elder herself. Among the League's young players have been Miss Angela Baddeley, Miss Hermione Baddeley, Miss Norah Balfour, Mr. Michael Hogan, Mr. J. Hubert Leslie, Mr. Geoffrey Wincott, and Mr. Donald Wolfitt, all of whom it may be presumed have learned something of acting from their service with the League, while the more than distinguished name of Miss Sara Allgood suggests that the League may have learned something from her! It would be easy to rhapsodise over what such a theatre has meant to the districts which it has visited, and the line which such a rhapsody would rightly take would be that in bringing drama to those who had not experienced it before it has done something akin to the discovery of the arts of literature, painting, and music to those who lacked knowledge of them and could put no name to their vague necessity.

GEORGE WARRINGTON.



The gardens surrounding the house built in 1901 from Sir Edwin Lutyens's designs comprise some of the most pleasing features in recent formal lay-out

STANDING as it does on a shoulder of naked downland, this house needed very careful splicing into its setting. It demanded in a pre-eminent degree an architectural treatment of the immediate surroundings which should soften the break between its white, self-conscious mass and the simple landscape. "There are sites," wrote Sir Lawrence Weaver, "so enriched by Nature with bastions of rock and fringes of natural growth that an elaborate scheme of terraces and balustrades, of retaining walls and paved walks, seems not only unnecessary but impertinent. At Marsh Court, however, the garden setting which Sir Edwin Lutyens devised was essential to success." The closest analogy to this outstanding early work of the architect is Castle Drogo on the fringe of Dartmoor, a great Tudor castle which is only just completed after twenty years' intermittent work. Each building is a *tour de force* of romantic design in local materials, each occupies a hilltop site, and each has been welded with remarkable success into its setting so that it does not for a moment strike the observer as an intrusion into a lovely wild scene, but appears a natural growth out of it, enriching and fulfilling it. It is instructive, however, to mark one great difference between the two conceptions. Castle Drogo has no gardens of any kind in its immediate neighbourhood. Its sheer granite walls spring straight up out

of the heather and firs, like the granite crags of a tor and, like them, call for no further explaining or preparation. The squat, compressed mass and rough walls have sufficient material unity with the setting for explanatory outworks to be dispensed with.

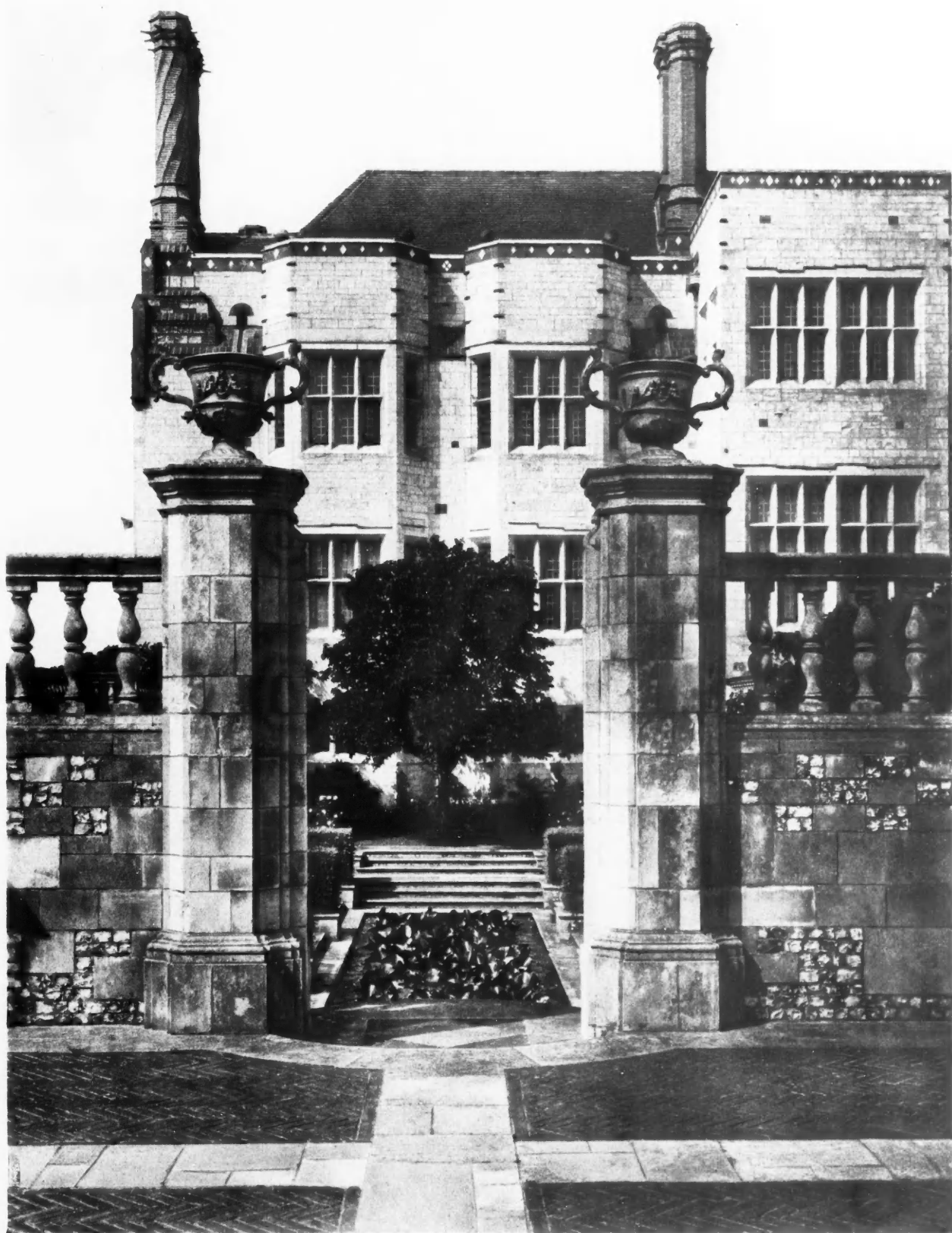
Where chalk takes the place of granite, and smooth turf that of whin, the case is as different as between a lady putting on a silk dress and a shepherd his plaid. The smoother and finer the texture, the more elaborate the process necessary in transition. The gardens at Marsh Court do not cover a large expanse of ground, but they surround the house on all sides with that mingling of conscious design and natural forms that the eye demands for satisfaction. In last week's article the long walk along the west side of the house and forecourt (Fig. 1) was described. Beyond the house it skirts the enclosing wall of the sunk garden, and at its southern end a right-angle turn to the left brings one to the entry of this most highly finished part of the scheme (Fig. 2). Taking the place, as it does in the plan, of the south-west wing of the house, the sunk garden is in the nature of a great outdoors room, overlooked by the principal living-room and delightful for sitting in on a windy day. Its formation was facilitated by the slope of the ground at this point from north-east to south-west, so that the lawn before the south



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1.—THE HOUSE FROM THE END OF THE LONG WALK

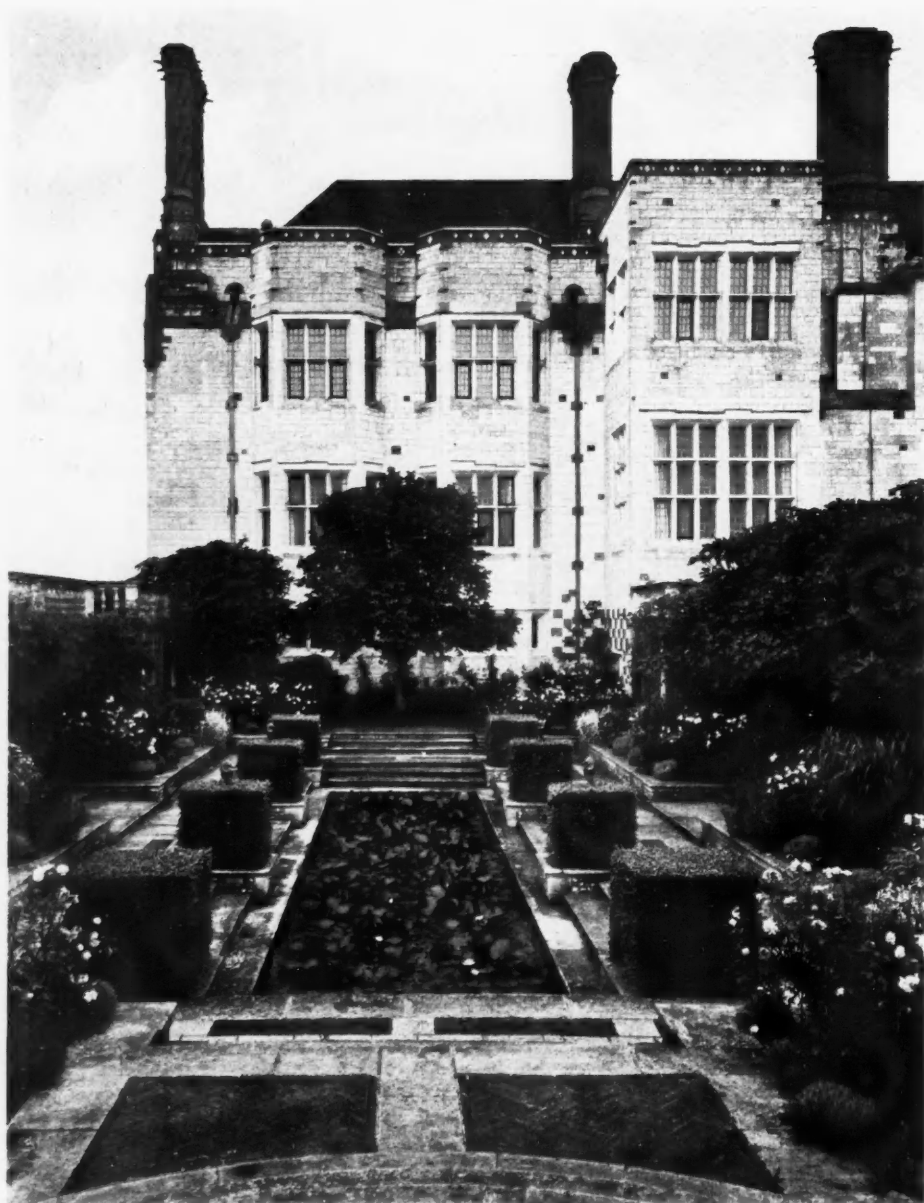
"COUNTRY LIFE"



2.—THE ENTRY TO THE SUNK GARDEN ON THE SOUTH FRONT



3.—THE SOUTH FRONT FROM THE SUNK GARDEN

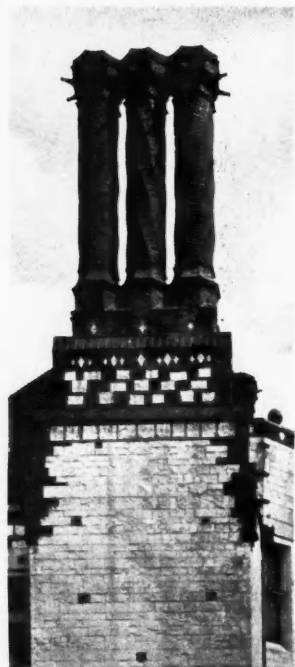


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4.—THE LILY POOL IN THE SUNK GARDEN

"C.L."

front of the house is level with the top of the sunk garden retaining wall on this side. From the gateway at its south end a flight of steps leads down to a long lily pool flanked by square clumps of box, in four of which are lead hippocampi which spout water into the pool. All round the base of the walls are deep borders framed in a low parapet which is set back in the centre of each side where an old lead cistern is placed. The borders are furnished with clumps of long-enduring plants such as lavender-cotton and China roses; while against the trellised walls the fig tree flourishes with several varieties of vine and clematis. As an example of artifice, this sunk garden stands alone, recalling



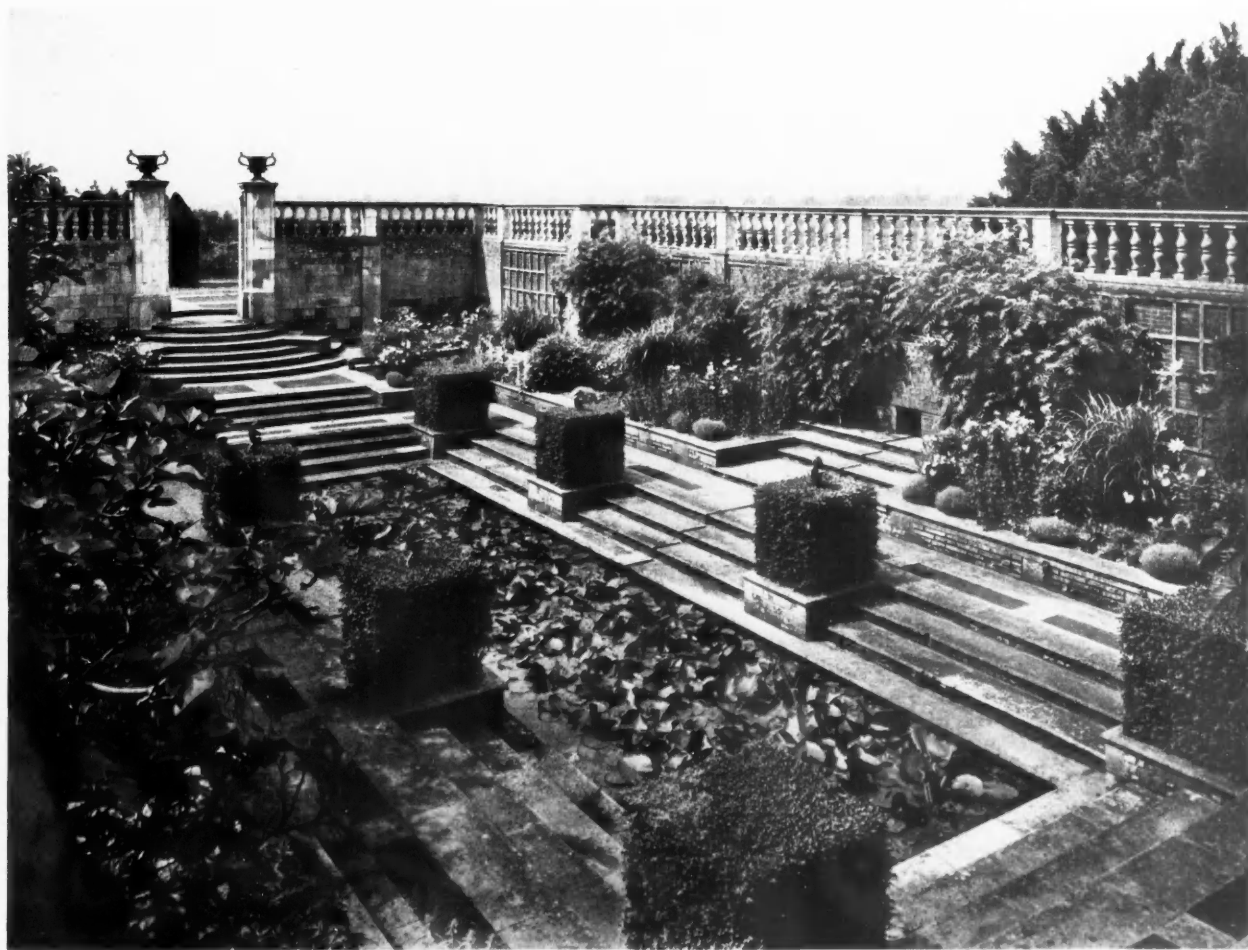
5.—A DETAIL OF CHIMNEYS

to some, perhaps, a Spanish *patio* or some fabled pleasure of Persia, but essentially characteristic of its designer in his most felicitous mood.

Just outside the gate a staircase climbs to the south terrace. At the head of it a clump of yuccas is admirably placed (Fig. 7) and from beside it a lovely view is caught, looking back over the marshy levels of the Test (Fig. 6). Just outside the gate of the sunk garden, piers of yew stand on the edge of the deep declivity that forms a natural boundary to the garden proper and overlooks the rolling sward below, where a golf course is laid out. Continuing eastwards below the south terrace runs a pergola (Fig. 8), its stone-capped piers constructed of tile, and the heavy oak beams having just the slight curve appropriate. A set-back in the terrace wall gives space for another little



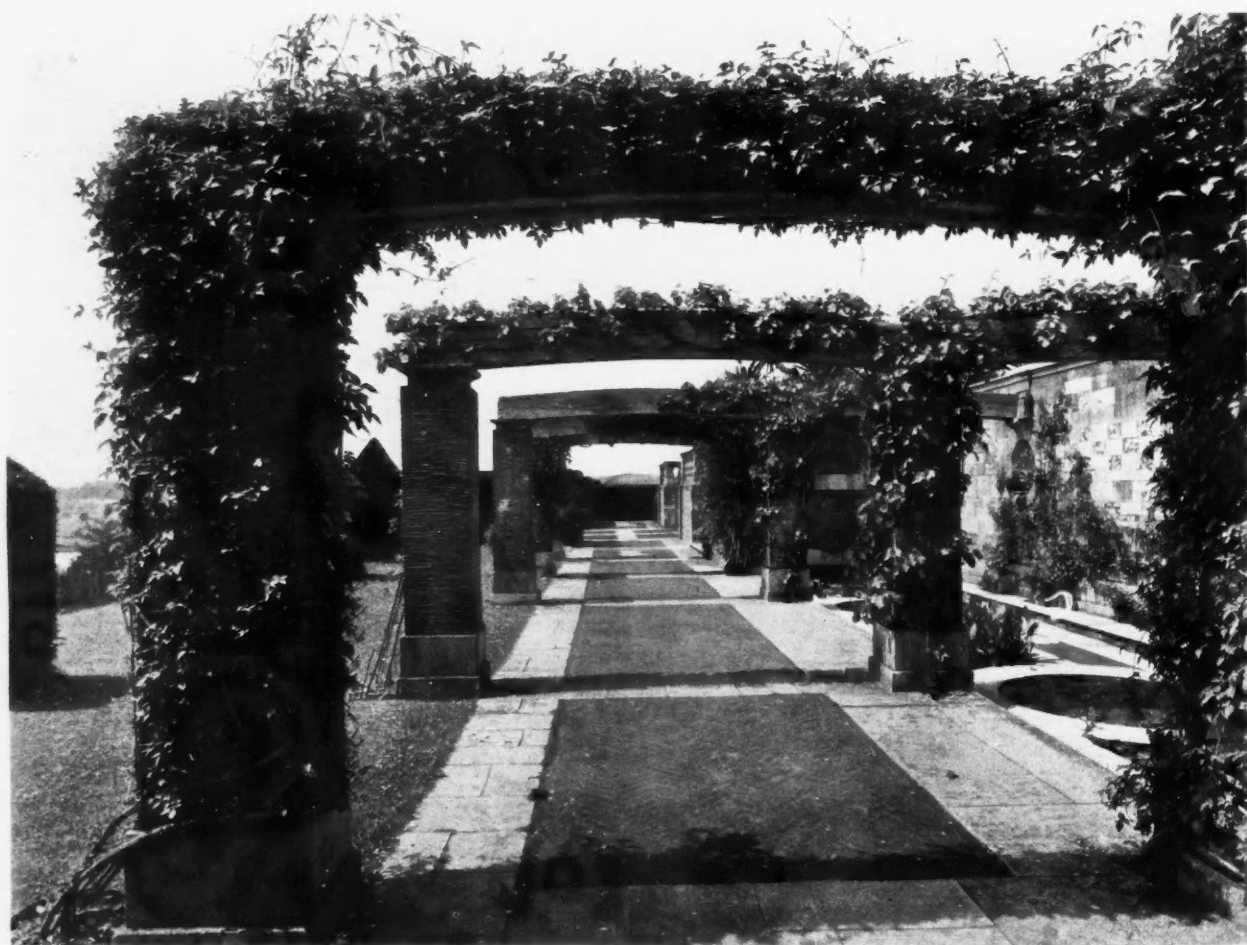
6.—LOOKING ACROSS THE VALLEY OF THE TEST FROM THE TERRACE



7.—THE SUNK GARDEN FROM A WINDOW OF THE HALL



8.—THE PERGOLA BELOW THE SOUTH TERRACE



9.—LOOKING ALONG THE PERGOLA TOWARDS THE GATE TO THE SUNK GARDEN

water garden (Fig. 9), above which the pergola beams are extended to rest on the keystones of circular niches in the retaining wall. At either end are shallow arched alcoves executed in brick. On the other side is the grassy slope and the view across the valley.

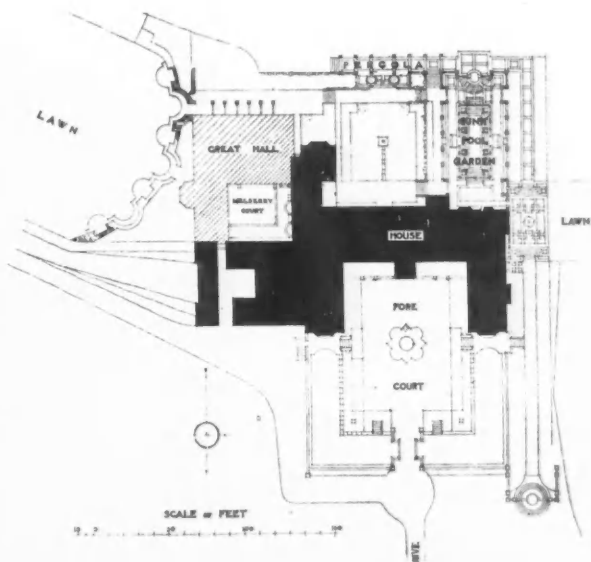
Continuing the circuit round the house, one comes to an enormous lawn enclosed at the nearer end by a semicircular clipped yew hedge and losing itself at the other in the slopes of the park. Following the approach back to the forecourt on the north front, the main entrance is reached. This is beneath a deep porch (Fig. 11), the vault of which is made of squares of tile and chalk. The skeleton arch of the entrance, tied back into the chequered vault by three long keystones, is a fascinating detail of craftsmanship, though the whole porch perhaps "dates" more obviously than any other feature about the building. It is characteristic of the kind of fluid classicism favoured about the year 1900, but is sanctioned by its admirable craftsmanship.

Before going into the house, which we will do next week, a note will be of interest on the use and treatment of chalk for building. It has probably never been used on so large a scale for external work, though it is common enough in old cottages and was used frequently by mediæval builders for the interiors of churches. The chalk used for building comes from the hard lower beds of the formation and is often known as "clunch." An amusing feature of its use here is the retention here and there of an odd flint embedded in the chalk which forms an irregular knob jutting out from the smooth wall surface.

Chalk, like many other forms of building material, is not entirely impervious to moisture, and two remedial processes have been applied in this case, the second with complete success. The first was a traditional nostrum—the washing of the walls with milk. Though temporarily successful, it resulted in a skin of the surface flaking off at changes of temperature. The second, applied on the advice of Messrs. Holland, Hannen and Cubitt, was the application of Fluite crystals in solution. A preliminary application at 25° of density was allowed to dry, then followed with a wash of 35° of density. This has been found to afford complete impermeability, though probably the process should be repeated at intervals of ten years. The treatment is applicable to any porous material.

CHRISTOPHER
HUSSEY.

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10.—PLAN OF THE LAY-OUT
The hatched portions were added in 1926



11.—BENEATH THE FRONT PORCH

'COUNTRY LIFE.'

DOWN THE GARDEN PATH

By BEVERLEY NICHOLS

DECORATED BY REX WHISTLER



The second of the series of extracts, to be given in COUNTRY LIFE, from Mr. Nichols' forthcoming book which Cape is to publish shortly, deals with the problem of the garden in winter. Not the least charm of Mr. Nichols' writing is the modesty with which he disclaims expertise. In tackling this neglected period of the year, however, he makes many suggestions that the experienced may have forgotten and the novice can adopt with profit.

II.—MID-WINTER MADNESS



WE are now, let us imagine, in the depths of winter . . . my first winter at the cottage . . . and the first winter when I went mad.

The average gardener, in the cold, dark days of December and January, sits by his fire, turning over the pages of seed catalogues, wondering what he shall sow for the spring. If he goes out in his garden at all it is only for the sake of exercise. He puts on a coat, stamps up and down the frozen paths, hardly deigns to glance at the black empty beds, turns in again. Perhaps, before returning to his fireside, he may go and look in a top attic to see if the hyacinths, in fibre, are beginning to flower. But that represents the sum total of his activity.

I wrote above that, on this first winter, I went mad. For I suddenly said to myself: "I WILL HAVE FLOWERS IN MY GARDEN IN WINTER." And by flowers I meant real flowers, not merely a few sprays of frozen periwinkle, and an occasional blackened Christmas rose. Everybody to whom I spoke said that this desire was insane, and I suppose "everybody" ought to have been right. Yet, everybody was wrong. For my dream has come true.

Now, one more moment of self-revelation and we can really begin. I must explain my love of winter flowers, in order that the charge of insanity may be refuted. And yet it is so strong and so persistent—this love—that I sometimes call a halt, and ask myself if it may not be, at least, a little morbid. For there are curious visions that come to me, on blazing summer days, when the garden is packed with blossom like a basket. In an instant, I seem to see the garden bare . . . the crimsons and the purples are wiped out, the sky is drained of its blue, and the trees stand stark and melancholy against a sky that is the colour of ashes. It is then that I see, in some distant corner, the faint, sad glimmer of the winter jasmine . . . like a match that flickers in the dark . . . and at my feet a pale and lonely Christmas rose. And I kneel down quickly, as though I would shelter this brave flower from the keen wind . . . only to realise, with a start, that I am kneeling in the sunshine, that there is no flower there, only a few green leaves . . . and overhead, the burning sun.

I wonder why. And yet perhaps I know. For this passion for winter flowers has its roots deep, deep within me. I have a horror of endings, of farewells, of every sort of death. The inevitable curve of Nature, which rises so gallantly and falls so ignominiously, is to me a loathsome shape. I want the curve to rise perpetually, I want the rocket, that is life, to soar to measureless heights. I shudder at its fall, and gain no consolation that, in falling, it breaks into trembling stars of acid green and liquid gold. I can hear only the thump of the stick in some sordid back yard. The silly thump of a silly stick. The end of life. What does it matter that a moment ago the tent of night was spangled with green and gold? It is gone now. The colour is but gas . . . a feeble poison, dissipated. Only the stick remains.

I believe that my love for winter flowers has its secret in this neurosis . . . if one may dignify the condition by such a word. I want my garden to go on. I cannot bear to think of it as a place that may be tenanted only in the easy months. I will not have it draped with Nature's dust sheets.

That is why I waged this battle for winter flowers. Make no mistake about it. It is a battle. There is the clash of drama about it. People think that the gardener is a placid man, who chews a perpetual cud . . . a man whose mind moves slowly, like an expanding leaf, whose spirit is as calm as the earth's breath, whose eyes are as bright as morning dew. Such ideas are very

wide of the mark. A gardener . . . if he is like many gardeners I know . . . is a wild and highly strung creature, whose mind trembles like the aspen and is warped by sudden frosts and scarred by strange winds. His spirit is as tenuous as the mists that hang, like ghosts, about the winter orchards, and in his eyes one can see the shadows of clouds on bleak and distant hills.

As soon as I had decided that I was going to specialise in winter flowers, I began to study the catalogues. Very crudely at first. I used to turn to the lists of chrysanthemums, and choose the latest flowering varieties, forgetting that they needed the protection of glass. Then I would get hold of the bulb lists, and choose the earliest flowering bulbs . . . little knowing that the average bulb merchant was a master of deceit, and gaily advertised his wares as blooming in January when, in fact, they would not deign to thrust their green caps through the earth until the beginning of March. I knew all about the winter jasmine, of course, and I ordered a dozen of these. Also a quantity of clumps of Christmas roses. There my knowledge of winter flowers stopped. And so I began to write to various nurseries, asking them what they could recommend.

The nurseries could recommend winter jasmine and Christmas roses. When they had made these two brilliant suggestions, their ingenuity appeared to be exhausted. The correspondence invariably trailed off into vague generalities. When I wrote to them that there must surely be *something* besides winter jasmine and Christmas roses, they replied with dark hints, saying that of course there *were* things, but it was doubtful whether they would "do," and perhaps it might be as well to meet "our Mr. Wilkins." But I did not desire to meet their Mr. Wilkins. I wanted to be told about winter flowers.

Of course, I had written to the wrong nurseries. There are places which specialise in winter flowers, but I did not know about them.

For this reason my garden, on its first winter, was as barren as ever. A few snowdrops, of the feeblest variety, thinly planted. One or two sprays of jasmine. Not a solitary Christmas rose.

It was during that first barren January that my passion for winter flowers developed into an obsession. I felt that somewhere somebody was waiting to tell me something. But who? And where? And what? I threw the catalogues into the fire, and watched their false pages curling into smoke. They were deceivers, those catalogues. I went back to London.

It was in such a state of depression that I strolled, one bleak January morning, into Messrs. Hatchard's bookshop at 187, Piccadilly. I was after a copy of George Moore's *Confessions of a Young Man*, for my own copy was almost worn out, so passionately had it been fondled. I walked into the shop, muttered something about "looking for a book," and went to the shelves where Moore lay, in lofty seclusion.

But as I looked up I saw that I had come to the wrong section. The books in front of me were all about gardening. They did not seem to be very attractive. They were mostly in wrappers which showed women in obsolete hats standing with guilty expressions by the side of immense hollyhocks. They had terrible titles, too—like *Romps in the Rockery* and *A Garden of Memory*. I was about to pass on when I saw, right by my hand, a book with a title that made me catch my breath in excitement.

It was called *Winter Blossoms from the Outdoor Garden*, by A. W. Darnell.

Gingerly I stretched out my hand to take it. Would it vanish into thin air? No. It was real enough. However, as I took it down, I felt that surely there must be some catch somewhere. For months I had been vainly searching the catalogues and the encyclopædias for even a few paragraphs about winter flowers. And here was a whole book devoted to the problem. Was the title a fake? Was it not a garden book at all . . . was it perhaps an awful collection of sentimental short stories? About thin, sickly children who grew ivy in slums—and all that?

I opened it. And as soon as I read the introduction my anxiety ceased. Here is what Mr. Darnell says:

Beyond the Winter Jasmine, Christmas Roses, and *Laurus tinus*, but few of the winter blossoming plants described in the following pages are to be seen outdoors in the average gardens of Great Britain. In the hope that lovers of winter blossoms may be induced to grow such subjects more freely, and glean some of the pleasure that has been his, the author has compiled the following pages from voluminous notes made over a period of many years. These observations have taught him that given shelter, a warm soil, and a normal season, the smallest suburban garden may be made to yield sheaves of beautiful blossoms for table and room decoration throughout our winter months.

The commoner inhabitants of the amateur's garden such as: Roses, *Chrysanthemums*, *Michaelmas Daisies*, Primroses, Violets, etc., that frequently muster sufficient precocity or belatedness to supply a few blossoms on Christmas Day in mild seasons, have not been included, the space being allotted to less well-known plants. Care has been taken to include only those plants which may be expected to give their blossoms during the months specified on the title-page of the book; they have, with but few exceptions, been repeatedly observed by the author in blossom year after year during that period.

This was so absolutely the book that I had been seeking that I bought it at once, and rushed out of the shop, forgetting all about George Moore.

Let me observe, without delay, that I do not know Mr. Darnell nor anything about him. I would like to know him very much indeed, but I have not that honour. I have not even written to him. I only say this in order to relieve your suspicions that we are in some awful league together. He has not scratched my back, nor have I scratched his. Nor do I expect to, though I should like to *stroke* his back, very gently and with a decently controlled ecstasy, for the pleasure and instruction he has given me.

In this book (which is published by L. Reeve and Co., Limited, Bank Street, Ashford, Kent) you will find nearly everything about winter flowers that is known to modern man. Its full title is—

*A Descriptive List of Exotic
Trees, Shrubs and Herbaceous Plants
That flower in the Outdoor Garden in
The British Isles*

During the Months of December, January and February.

I said a moment ago that Mr. Darnell and I were not engaged in any unholy conspiracy together. I would reinforce that statement by venturing one or two criticisms of his book.

For instance, on several occasions he is madly optimistic. Thus, on the very first page, there is a beautiful plate, drawn with his own hand, of the *Acacia Baileyana*, which most of us call *mimosa*, though the Australians somewhat unkindly call it *wattle*. "How's that?" you will exclaim. "*Mimosa*? Out of doors in the British Isles?" And then you will make that noise which one writes as "Pshaw!" At least that is the noise which I made when I thought of those pale powdered tassels vainly endeavouring to withstand the cutting winds of the Midlands . . . stretching their sensitive roots into the cold, sullen clay of Huntingdonshire.

Perhaps this is a little unfair to Mr. Darnell. For if you read the opening phrases of his first section you will perceive that he breathes about the *Acacia Baileyana* an atmosphere of warmth and cosiness which the poor plant, alas, encounters but seldom in these climes. He writes:

In many gardens in Devonshire and Cornwall, in spots sheltered from the north and east by a living wall of evergreen trees, but open to the sun's rays, grand specimens of this glorious tree may be seen in full flower in the month of January . . .

Well, that may be so. But we do not all live in Devonshire and Cornwall. We are not all the possessors of spots sheltered from the north and east. We have not, all of us, a living wall of evergreen trees. We want something more definite than that.

Mr. Darnell, as soon as he gets beyond the awkward letter A, which appears to have unduly exalted him, supplies us. He leaves Devonshire and Cornwall. He makes no more impossible demands. He caters for the Midlands, for the open spaces, for the hard ungrateful soils, for the bitterest and sourest tempers of winter. Yet always his hands are full of flowers . . . and they are real flowers, too, as I have learnt from sweet experience. Sometimes they may not be flamboyant . . . their petals may be nearer to green than to gold . . . their beauty may be shy and timid . . . over their faces they may stretch green leaves to shield them from the wind, or they may droop diffidently to the kindly earth, afraid to rear their heads too high. But they are flowers all the same. And they flower, as Mr. Darnell states, in December, January and February. Let us make their acquaintance.

If you are a great expert, with a case of medals from the Horticultural Society on your mantelpiece . . . if you have written treatises on the *Ionopsidium acaule* (which, by the way, is well worth growing) . . . if you have a huge drooping moustache and a huge drooping head-gardener, then you had better throw this book aside. I am not writing for you. I really have not the least idea for whom I am writing. For the flowers themselves, I expect. For the really simple, absolutely trustworthy winter flowers that may be guaranteed to spangle the garden with blossom whatever the weather, whatever the soil and whatever the international situation.

First and foremost among these I would place the winter aconite. By some extraordinary oversight Mr. Darnell does not mention it at all, which is the only serious criticism I have to make about his book.

The winter aconite is included in nearly every bulb catalogue. That is about all the publicity this brave and radiant blossom has ever gained. It is just "included." It is never starred, as it should be. It is given a tiny paragraph down at the bottom of the page, with a curt note saying that it is "one of the first Spring flowers. Effective in borders. Fifty shillings a thousand."

It is *not* "one of the first spring flowers." It is a mid-winter flower. It is *not* "effective." It is dazzling. And, from my experience, it would come up if you planted it on an iceberg.

I am sorry to get so hot about the winter aconite, but I hate to see these lovely things neglected. I hate to think of all the bare gloomy spaces in English and American gardens in mid-January, when they might all be made as gay as a buttercup field.

A buttercup field in mid-January! That is what the aconites will do for you, if you buy enough of them. For the aconite is like a large, brilliant buttercup with a green ruff round its neck, and nothing will stop it from flowering. Its brave gold is untarnished by rain, by snow, by the fiercest degrees of frost. I once planted some aconites in low ground under trees. Shortly after Christmas the ground was flooded. Then came the frost, and a thick sheet of ice covered the whole area. Yet the aconites pushed their way through the earth, expanded their blossoms, and gleamed beneath the ice, like a Victorian posy under a glass case.

They are particularly lovely when there are a few inches of snow on the ground. Their stems are just tall enough to lift the blossoms above the white coverlet. The effect is of gold-spangled satin. But they are lovely too on mild days, for then they open very wide, and one sees how essentially innocent and child-like they are, which makes their courage and endurance all the more remarkable.

You cannot have too many aconites. They cost, as I said before, about fifty shillings a thousand. A thousand will make a brave splash of colour, which lasts a month. If you can afford ten thousand, you are mad not to buy them. There are so many exciting places where you can put them . . . in the hollow of a felled tree, by the border of a pond, in a circle round a statue, or immediately under your window, so that you can press your nose against the glass, when it is too cold to go out, and stare at them, and remember that spring is on its way.

After the aconites, I place, in order of excitement, the *Chimonanthus fragrans*, which is better known by its charming name of wintersweet. There is a delightful picture of it in Mr. Darnell's book, showing a creamy yellow flower, prettily striped with red. This picture does not lie. As Mr. Darnell says, "From a well-established specimen, planted against a warm wall, we may expect to gather long sprays of its pretty, highly fragrant flowers in the very depth of winter with absolute certainty."

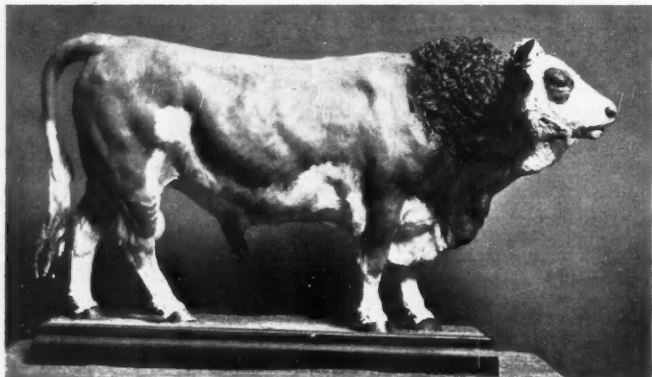
My plants . . . I have a dozen of them . . . have only been "established" for three years, and they have not the shelter of a warm wall . . . only a thin wooden fence protects them. Yet, last year, the spare brown branches were lavishly starred with blossom, soon after Christmas. If they were cut in bud, they lasted . . . with the discreet assistance of a tablet of aspirin . . . nearly a month. Their perfume was as sweet and delicate as anything you could desire.

Do not forget the importance of picking many winter flowers in bud. It is a secret which brings astonishing rewards. Most people, for example, do not realise how exquisite the common *Jasminum nudiflorum* can be, for indoor decoration, if it is properly treated. They see it on their suburban porches, tattered and brown and windswept, with a lot of tiresome twigs surrounding the flowers, and they hardly ever bother to cut it and give it shelter.

Yet, if you go out and run your fingers over the shrub, you will find quantities of young branches, bearing an abundance of buds. Some of these buds may be barely formed . . . they may show you only a gleam of yellow, with a reddish brown tip. They may be cluttered up with a lot of dead wood. Be brave! Slice off those branches. Carry them indoors. Trim off the dead wood. Place the result in water. Leave them for a week in a dark, warm cupboard. When you return you will find that the jasmine has broken into the gayest blossom . . . a bright, sturdy array of blossom that lasts, literally for weeks. Then, as you tuck some asparagus fern into the vase, and transport it proudly to your desk, you will feel inclined to ask the question, "Who said it was cruel to cut flowers? When these are happy as primroses in a sheltered corner?" And, one might add, as expensive-looking as any spray of orchids.

A MODERN HUNGARIAN SCULPTOR

By VISCOUNTESS CHILSTON



1.—A SIEMENTHAL BULL

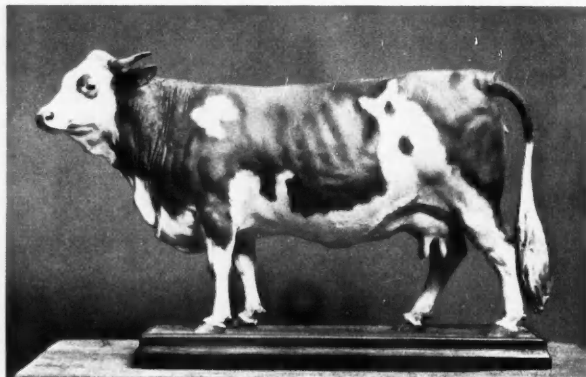
This famous breed of cattle has been imported from Switzerland

THE Hungarian sculptor, George Vastagh, was born in 1868, coming of a family of painters and sculptors. From his early youth Vastagh had been passionately interested in natural history, and at the age of twenty-eight he was given a unique chance to exploit his gift for minute observation in animals and to create a new departure in plastic art.

It was on his return to Budapest in 1896 from studying in Munich and Paris that he found great preparations on foot for the Millennium Exhibition. This was to celebrate the 1,000 years which had passed since the Magyars had crossed Asia to come finally to rest in the plains of the Danube, and no pains were being spared to make the celebrations as memorable as possible. At that time the great Daranyi was Minister of Agriculture and, as one of the aims of the Exhibition was to emphasise Hungary's contribution to European culture, he felt that it was incumbent on him to show to what perfection agriculture and breeding of animals had reached in Hungary; and now came the chance of the young sculptor Vastagh. He was already equipped with unrivalled knowledge of natural history and anatomy of animals, besides having obtained great technical skill as a sculptor; but it was thanks to the imagination of Daranyi that these special talents could be exploited.

The Minister began commissioning Vastagh to produce fifty models of the most characteristically Hungarian horses and cattle, and sent him for this purpose to the State studs and farms. Here he was instructed to make exact portraits showing every peculiarity in the species and individuals of the best examples of Hungarian breeding.

This was done by Vastagh with remarkable success. He made the models in plaster, painting them (as colour was necessary



2.—A SIEMENTHAL COW

Bred in Hungary; in 1928 gave 13,235 kilograms of milk

to attain perfect characterisation) with a process invented by him, and thus produced a record in "plastique" which in accuracy could never have reached such perfection by drawing or photography and is more useful to the student than either of the latter.

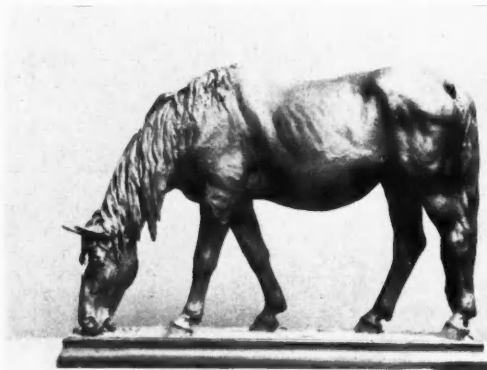
Indeed, their merit from this point of view was speedily recognised, and after he had gained the added prestige of gold medals awarded for a set of his models at the Paris Exhibition of 1898 his work became well known, and most of the natural history museums in Europe ordered replicas from Vastagh.

Among these the Natural History Museum in London acquired fifty to sixty models of horses, oxen, sheep and pigs.

It is certain that Vastagh had very interesting subjects to portray. The original Magyars not only brought a quantity of horses with them in their extraordinary migration across Asia in 900 A.D., but also cattle, sheep, pigs and dogs. Of these only the oxen and water buffaloes are known to be the exact survivals of the original breed, and the identical type is found in India to-day with the wide-spreading horns and pale grey colour. They are amazingly hardy animals, working on the land for years without intermission and requiring very little food. The cow, however, gives but a small quantity of milk, and for this reason the Hungarians found

it necessary of late years to import specimens of the Siementhal cattle from Switzerland (Figs. 1 and 2). This breed has developed so remarkably well in Hungary that the animals bred here are much superior to those originally imported; the bulls have increased in weight and strength, and the cows give an astonishing amount of milk. Fig. 2, for instance, shows a Siementhaler cow bred in Hungary which in 1928 gave 13,235 kilograms of milk.

But of all animals it is the horse which has always played the greatest part in Hungarian life. Ever since the days when



3.—MARE OF THE NONIUS BREED

The breed is descended from the famous stallion Nonius, looted from France in 1815



4.—STALLION OF THE NONIUS BREED
A fine type of light-heavy horse



5.—THE STALLION "KOZMA"
Bred at Kisber of thoroughbred English stock

the wiry little Asiatic horses brought their masters on their long journey from central Asia to the fertile plains on the banks of the Danube it has been the horse which has been the friend of the Hungarian of all classes and has received his greatest care. The many disasters, wars and invasions which have swept over Hungary since she was a nation have almost eliminated all trace of the original breed, but the strain of Asiatic blood is naturally still to be found in parts of the country. The first great change in the original Hungarian horse came with the Turkish occupation in the Middle Ages, when Arab blood was introduced on an extensive scale. From 1700 onwards the importation of English thoroughbred blood commenced and is now of paramount importance. The great Count Szechenyi may be described as the father of modern Hungarian horse breeding, and the regular importation of English blood on the present large scale dates from his era. The State stud farm at Kisber is kept well supplied with thoroughbred English stock, and the premium stallions of this stud (Fig. 5) are largely responsible for the modern type of Hungarian horse.

Hungary is essentially the country of the light horse, and for climatic reasons horses in Hungary are apt to run very short of bone and substance. The production of the limited number of heavy draft horses, and the large quantity of light draft horses which are necessary for the army and agriculture, demands special breeding which is confined almost entirely to the Nonius breed of heavy horse (Figs. 3 and 4). The father of this type was a stallion named Nonius, who was bred in France, in 1810 from the English thoroughbred Orion, out of an Anglo-Norman mare. He was looted in 1815 by Hungarian lancers from a stud farm in France, and took up his abode in 1817 in Mezöhegyes, where the breed to which he gives his name has been developed in the military and civil stud farms ever since. The typical Nonius is a fine type of light heavy horse, and is found in his lighter form all over the country and in the artillery of the Honved army. The heavier type is far less numerous, and is seldom found except where required for stud purposes and for heavy haulage in towns, as the country is on the whole too boggy in autumn and spring for a horse of this type to be of much agricultural use.

Two other types which play their part in Hungarian equine affairs are the Arab and the Lippizaner. These two types are specially developed at the State stud farm at Bâbolna. The Arab is bred on a considerable scale, and the size of the average Arab seen at the stud is considerably greater than that of the desert breed. Anglo-Arab crosses are made considerable use of for breeding purposes. The stud is kept supplied with fresh blood by the purchase of pure desert Arabs and also of stock from the better-known Arab studs of Europe, preference being given generally to those in Poland. The Lippizaner, who exists in his purest form in the stables of the Spanish riding school in Vienna, is a very distinct type of light horse with a mixed Spanish, Italian and Arab ancestry. The cult of these horses in central Europe dates from the end of the sixteenth century, and was confined for long to the barren areas of southern present-day Styria. They were first introduced into Hungary early in the last century, and the race is bred clean both at Bâbolna and at several private stud farms. Either clean bred or with the admixture of, strangely enough, a little Arab blood, he makes a delightful light carriage horse, but apart from his *haute école* accomplishments as exemplified in Vienna the little horse is of no great present value, and it would not be surprising to see him gradually disappear from Hungary. Lippizaner blood is seldom, if ever, introduced into the half-bred Hungarian light horse which provides probably 80 per cent. of the equine population of Hungary.

Besides his famous models George Vastagh has, during his very active life, produced many striking statues, mostly equestrian memorial monuments. Perhaps the most effective of these is that of Ferenc Rakoczi, the eighteenth century hero who fought for Hungary's freedom against Habsburg domination. This fine work, executed in 1912, stands opposite the Archbishop's palace at Szeged, the big university town of Hungary, and is a very successful example of a modern equestrian statue in the Colleoni tradition (Fig. 6). Another statue which demonstrates Vastagh's great feeling and knowledge of horses is that of Arpad the Conqueror (Fig. 7), who took possession more than a thousand years ago of the territory which was pre-War Hungary. In this statue Vastagh's intimate and sympathetic understanding of animals has full play. He has chosen the moment when, after years of weary wandering, the Magyar chieftain pauses, surveys the land he has reached, apprises it and finally



6.—EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF FERENC RAKOCZI, THE HUNGARIAN HERO, AT SZEGED



7.—MODEL FOR THE EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF ARPAD THE CONQUEROR

feels he has reached his goal. The intentness of the man has been subtly communicated to his horse, which seems to look round him with excitement and expectancy. This statue was to have been erected at Muncacy, the border town of old Hungary, but since the War this territory has passed to Czecho-Slovakia and the statue is to be seen in Mr. Vastagh's studio in Budapest.

But the work by this sculptor most beloved and admired of his countrymen is the group known as "Csikos," the horseman. It represents a Hungarian "cowboy" of the Hortobágy plains curbing a restive horse. It stands outside the Imperial Riding School below the Royal Palace on the slopes of Buda,

and seen against the great pile of buildings which soar above makes a most arresting and interesting contour. He has recently finished a small equestrian portrait in bronze of the Regent of Hungary, Admiral de Horthy. M. Vastagh is at present engaged in a very interesting enterprise in Egypt. King Fouad so greatly admired the superb Agricultural Museum in Budapest, recognised as the first in the world, that he has commissioned the director of it, M. Paikert, to produce one exactly similar in every detail in Cairo. Among the experts who have been engaged by the King for three years is M. Vastagh, who is to produce models of all animals used for agricultural purposes in Egypt.

BIRDS AND THEIR PROBLEMS

The Riddle of Migration, by William Rowan. (Baillière, Tindall and Cox, 11s. 6d.)

Why Birds Sing, by Jacques Delamain. (Gollancz, 7s. 6d.)

THE problems concerning birds and their behaviour are many, and are such as go to the very root of life and of the universe, but our profound ignorance of the causes of the conduct of the robin, the thrush, the swallow, etc., is probably only realised by the earnest student of bird life.

In *Why Birds Sing* Jacques Delamain sets forth in a most charming and readable style many things about birds, explicable and inexplicable, dealing with such subjects as why birds sing, the spring migration, friendships and hatreds, nuptials, the autumn migration, and so on, and so on. His descriptions are delightful, and bring vividly before the mind's eye the great facts of bird life, as when he deals with the emigration from the breeding quarters of the vast hosts of migrants:

From summer to winter, night and day, in favourable weather, thousands of wings cross the sky, often out of sight, graze the tree tops, brush past bushes and hedge-rows, or skim the surface of the seas. They are leaving the native land, the nesting country, and take the same general direction—south.

Mr. Rowan speaks of this exodus too, likewise of the return journey in the spring, and in reference to pink-footed geese making for distant Spitzbergen, observes:

No aviator's instruments are theirs: no navigator's compass can help them. But what of that? Though they fly by night, though they encounter deterring storm or tempting moorland or leagues of ice-flecked ocean, only a few more days and they, too, will be breeding, but a thousand miles away. They will arrive upon schedule and according to ordinance, as thousands of their generations have done before them.

This *Riddle of Migration* is indeed a notable book, for in it, after summing up the present state of knowledge regarding the movements of birds, the author sets forth his investigations into the factors governing migration, the result being a valuable contribution to ornithological literature and knowledge.

Working in Alberta, in Western Canada, he proceeded on experimental lines, using the junco and the crow as material. Observation and examination of specimens had led previous investigators to believe that migratory movements are part of the annual cycle of behaviour of the species and are governed by its physiological state, the return journey in the spring being controlled by the development of the sexual organs. So far, so good, but Mr. Rowan wanted to know what controls the development of these. He believed that the length of the day, or rather the increasing amount of daylight enjoyed as winter wanes was the factor, and by an ingenious series of experiments with electric-lighted cages proved this, bringing his experimental birds into breeding condition and with a desire to go off northwards in mid-winter. But then he proceeded a step farther, and showed it was not the amount of light enjoyed, but the exercise consequent on being lit up which brought the birds on so rapidly!

However, it is hardly fair to the author to epitomise his work like this. The book should be read carefully and pondered upon, especially those pages wherein the problems of migration are considered in conjunction with the Lamarckian theory, it being suggested that the facts are only explicable on the assumption that habit and customs can be incorporated in the hereditary make up of the species. Again, it is not fair to the author to try and condense his arguments into a line or two, for they need reading in full. This is a book that every serious student of ornithology should place upon his bookshelf.

FRANCES PITT.

Albert the Good, by Hector Bolitho. (Cobden Sanderson, 25s.)

THOUGHTLESS children as we are of the Victorian age, we take for granted the immense achievement of our parent, forgetful of the qualities that turned an experiment into a triumph, and conscious only of the foibles that irked our own adolescence. "If Albert had not come to England . . ." Mr. Bolitho poses the question, and, pondering it, we gauge the immensity of the nation's debt to that wise and patient Prince. If he had not come "to teach Victoria the art

of reticence and tolerance, her self-will would have brought her to ruin and tears. She had antagonised her Ministers and lost the affectionate indulgence they had for her youth." Within two years of her accession the Queen was within sight of failure, and imagination flinches at what failure would have meant. Then she fell in love, and "slowly she gave Albert her friendship as well." Surely the story of Victoria and Albert, for so long ridiculed, is one of the most splendid romances ever experienced by two human hearts. It is this aspect, the human aspect, of the adventure of Victorianism—which might with more accuracy be known as Albertinism—that Mr. Bolitho has chosen to develop. Political history is kept in the background and he has drawn chiefly for his material on the unpublished letters of Albert to his brother Prince Ernst. If this method tends at times to over-emphasise the part played by the Prince in such undertakings as the Great Exhibition, that part was in fact so great that the picture does not suffer from distortion. His genius for tactful self-effacement distorted the true picture much more. The question even arises to what extent the sensitive, repressed youth was in love with the Queen. Did he ever love her with the almost fierce affection that he displays for his brother, did England ever really fill the place in his heart occupied by his darling Coburg—the view from Windsor efface the memory of that from Rosenau of the Thuringerwald? From his youth destined by fate and Uncle Leopold to direct the fortunes of England from behind the throne, and at the age of four deprived of his mother's humanising influence, the real Albert never revealed himself to his contemporaries save sometimes indirectly to those who overheard him playing the organ. But Mr. Bolitho's opening chapters describing the scene and the life at Coburg just after Waterloo, besides being delightful in themselves, provide material for the reader to solve for himself the enigma of the aloof laborious Prince. Mr. Bolitho has succeeded in writing a book that has both authority and charm, if it cannot, by the very nature of its subject, always fulfil the promise of the delicious frontispiece. C. H.

Secret Sentence, by Vicki Baum. (Bles, 7s. 6d.)

A NEW novel by Vicki Baum is an event, and each seems to show her gifts in a fresh and surprising light. "Grand Hotel" and "Results of an Accident" were remarkable, and now *Secret Sentence*, if not so strong and individual a book as either of the others, is extraordinary in its knowledge of human nature, of different types and classes of people and their occupations, its sincerity and essential simplicity. Here we have the misery of an upper middle-class German household plunged into poverty, sharing accommodation with compulsory lodgers, the women doing the housework, the son and father disgruntled and drifting. The son belongs to a secret society pledged to murder the greatest political figure of the day and, in a mood of young bravado, he commits the murder himself, after the organisation has dissolved. He has intended to shoot himself; instead, through loneliness and fear, sickness and struggle and gruelling work, he clings to life. And always his secret sentence cuts short prospects of good, however distant, whenever they show before him. We follow him through years of wandering and struggle and at last see him happy working for a fisherman's widow on the North-west coast, and learn his story's end. It is not so close-knit a tale as its two forerunners, and it is a difficult matter to know quite what the author wills her readers to take away from it. Yet it is a fresher, sweeter book than "Grand Hotel," with more appreciation of country ways and beauties than either that book or "Result of an Accident"; and if, as a whole, the vagueness of its theme makes for disappointment, that disappointment does not appear until the last page, and every page holds the attention riveted. The portrait of the Minister who is murdered is a wonderful piece of work, and Joachim's life as a miner and tramp is done with that mastery which makes one feel that Vicki Baum must surely be a committee rather than an individual: since how could so much—and such—experience be packed into one short human life—and that a woman's?

BRENDA E. SPENDER.

The Children's Summer, by Sheila Kaye-Smith. (Cassell, 7s. 6d.)

THERE is not a false note in this book about two little girls. Miss Sheila Kaye-Smith might have been Selina and seven years old only yesterday, to judge by the vividness and accuracy of her analysis of the child's mind. And Selina's sister Moira, aged five, is equally real. Nothing in the book is sentimentalised, a thing rare and precious indeed where children are in question. The two little girls, for instance, are more interested in all sorts of people and things than in their parents, a state of affairs quite common in real life at that age, however shocking to parental susceptibilities. Their real interests are their nurse, their toys, the bigger girl who plays with them, and above all the farm at which they spend every summer. The characters of the two children are cleverly differentiated. Although their lives and pursuits are identical, it is Selina who, because of her larger share of sensitiveness, is the vulnerable one, Moira who has the power and not seldom the inexorable will to wound. Each little girl, for example, has an imaginary companion; and the tale of Selina's agonies when the doings of her beloved "Trimmer" are capped by those of Moira's maddening "Pearl" is like a door flung wide open to the half-forgotten paths of childhood. As in all sheltered, carefully nurtured childhoods, nothing to call anything really happens; yet never for a moment is the book dull;

the very essence of childhood, compounded of imagination and matter-of-factness, is over all. So we share with zest the drama of the penny "surprise packet" from the village shop, and the disaster of "the crackly pear," and the first bitter disillusion over the once radiant figure of the pantomime queen. This is a book about children that is a sheer delight for its truth to nature and its artistic rectitude. V. H. F.

Markus, The Fisherman, by Gabriel Scott. (Allen and Unwin, 7s. 6d.) THIS quaint and lovely little book, which has already been translated from the Norwegian into five languages, has an indescribable charm of its own. It gives us the life and thoughts of a simple Norwegian fisherman, Markus, a solitary man living aloof from others, of no account to them, rather looked on askance, taking no part in their petty ambitions and rivalries, and wedded to nature and the sea. When Markus arrived at Tronderoholm the neighbours decided that he was a simpleton, and as he possessed very few of this world's goods, took no more notice of him. He bought Regine's old wash-house for ninety kroner, and moved it up in the cleft; and there he was as happy as a king—if kings are happy. But he was no fool, nor was he poor: for the stars belonged to him. The others might own a bit more in this world, perhaps, but what was that compared to stars. Here we have the record of his daily life and of his reflections—and what a merciful change it is from the usual kind of novel tumbling on us by the score, week in, week out. Short, too, yet every word counting. And the intimate pictures of fishing life and the descriptions of the scenery of the sea are most attractive; and throughout the book, mixed up with eels and cod and herrings, mackerel and lobster-pots, run

Markus's comments on the objects which present themselves to him in the course of his work and on their significance in God's scheme. About the lobster we learn that he is not suspicious, and goes most willingly and obligingly into his pot! And about the mackerel that, whatever virtues and good qualities they have, it is no good denying that they are full of moods, and so "temperamental" at times that every calculation may go wrong. But when at last they decide to visit the bay, they draw everyone near them, "like a mountain of gold." "They swim along just beneath the surface, so they split the water into shining strips, like glittering mother of pearl." There is no plot in this story, no scheming, no intriguing, no great event, except, perhaps, the making of the garden in the cleft which is Markus's great joy, almost as great as his delight in the stars and all the other wonders of the universe. But there is something in this book which strikes one as a masterpiece of natural observation and brings peace to the soul. Markus lives, toils, falls ill and returns to the embrace of the heavens. "He lay in his bed dying, looked wonderingly up towards the sky, and thought how extraordinary it was that he would soon stand before God." One can confidently pass this book on to all lovers of quiet beauty. BEATRICE HARRADEN.

A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY LIST.

THE ENGLISH TRAVELLER IN FRANCE, by Constantia Maxwell (Routledge, 15s.); FISHERMEN AND FISHING WAYS, by Peter F. Anson (Harrap, 7s. 6d.); Fiction.—THE CHILDREN'S SUMMER, by Sheila Kaye-Smith (Cassell, 7s. 6d.); TWO SOLDIERS AND A LADY, by H. S. Reid (Constable, 7s. 6d.); INHERITANCE, by P.yllis Bentley (Gollancz, 8s. 6d.; March 31st).

A WEEK OF SPORT

MR. D. R. JARDINE, who is to take over the captaincy of the Surrey XI from Mr. Fender this season, has been one of the mainstays of the side since he came down from Oxford in 1923. In these days, when few amateurs can spare the time to play regularly in first-class cricket, he has proved the kind of acquisition that every county would like but few succeed in finding. In 1928-29, when he went with the M.C.C. team to Australia, he played in all five Test matches and came out with an average of 42; and last year saw him in the proud position of captain of the English team in the three matches played against New Zealand. As Vice-Captain he will have to support him the old Cambridge Blue, Mr. M. J. C. Allom, whose fast-medium-paced bowling has been another valuable asset to his county the last two or three years.

THE week of sport just over has been so full of thrills as to leave us rather breathless at the beginning of our Easter holiday. Outsiders are always apt to make a brave appearance in a week which includes both the Lincoln and the Grand National, but this year we had more even than usual.



SURREY'S NEW CAPTAIN
Mr. D. R. Jardine who succeeds
Mr. P. G. H. Fender

The success of Jerome Fandor (whose owner, Mr. A. M. McKinlay, is shown leading him in after the race) was a complete surprise. As for the Grand National, our readers may be referred to the remarks made by "Philippos" on another page of this issue, with regard to the continued unsatisfactory nature of a race which has a great deal too many competitors and a great deal too much confusion.

LAST Saturday's International Rugby Match was a great game, though the scores, perhaps, hardly did justice to the vanquished, whose forwards, at any rate, by no means failed their side, and but for the weakness of the backs might have put a different complexion on the game, though even then they would have found the Englishmen a very tough handful. By their victory England won the Calcutta Cup and drew level with Wales and Ireland in the international tournament. The team has thus largely made up for the early defeats by South Africa and Wales. The many thousands of Scotsmen who witnessed the game may well have been disappointed, but they will no doubt live to see their champions fight another and more glorious day.



THE WINNER OF THE LINCOLN
Mr. A. M. McKinlay leading in Jerome Fandor



ENGLAND'S VICTORY
The Duke of York greeting the English Rugby team at Twickenham

THE ROYAL MAUNDY

THE picturesque ceremony which is performed each year in the Abbey on the day before Good Friday is one of the few mediæval customs which have been preserved in the English church from pre-Reformation days. In the Middle Ages the Maundy rite was observed all over Christendom, as it still is in Catholic countries, when all of high degree, from the Pope to the parish priest, and the Sovereign to the lord of the manor, carried out the ceremonial footwashing of twelve or more poor men and women in literal obedience of Christ's *mandatum* to the twelve apostles. The service was always followed by a distribution of alms in the form of meat, drink and clothing, to which later was added a money payment. Though this part of the ceremony is now all that survives, there are several relics of the earlier custom. The Almoner and Sub-Almoner each wear a linen towel across their surplices, and the nosegays of flowers which are carried in the procession once served a purpose that was not merely ornamental.

In England it was the custom of the King to wash the feet of as many poor men as he was years old, and this variation of the usual practice, a relic of which still survives in the number of pence presented each year in the Maundy distribution, was observed also by lords and prelates. When Wolsey in the last year of his life "made his maund" in Peterborough Abbey there were fifty-nine poor men whose feet he washed and kissed. The chronicler does not record whether there were any preliminary ablutions carried out, as was usual when the sovereign performed the rite. Queen Elizabeth's chaste lips only kissed feet that had first been washed by the yeomen of the laundry and sweetened with sweet herbs.

The last King to carry out the full rite was the Catholic James II. Charles II performed it by proxy, as we learn from the following entry of Pepys:

1667. 4 April. My wife . . . had been to-day at White Hall to the Maundy, . . . but the King did not wash the poor people's feet himself, but the Bishop of London did it for him.

By the time of William III it was the task of the Royal Almoner who continued to perform this part of the rite under the first two Georges until it was finally abandoned in 1754.

At this date the ceremony took place in the Banqueting House of



THE MAUNDY CEREMONY IN VICTORIAN DAYS
The setting is the Banqueting House, Whitehall, then the Royal Chapel

ber bears the gold dish containing the alms, which he carries on his head. The procession then forms in the nave, headed by the Abbey Beadle and the children of the Chapel Royal, and followed by the choristers, "the Gentlemen of the Chapel Royal," "the Gentlemen of the Choir" and the Canons. The Sub-Almoner and Lord High Almoner, each wearing their towels of office, come next, and after them the Dean and the Receiver General. The Yeoman who bears the Maundy dish is followed by the children of the Royal Almonry, carrying nosegays, and the Guard completes the procession.

The special Maundy office opens with the Antiphon, "A new

Commandment" (*mandatum novum*), from the first word of which the name "Maundy" has been derived. After the Psalm and first lesson the first distribution takes place, now a gift of money in lieu of clothing. It is at the second distribution that the Maundy money, especially minted each year, is given. The red and white strings, shown in the illustration hanging down round the edge of the dish, are attached to leather purses. "The Red," given first, contains £1 in gold, representing the Maundy, and £1 10s. in lieu of provisions formerly given in kind. "The White" contains the Maundy pence, as many as the King is years of age, given in silver pennies, twopences, threepences and fourpences. The coining of these pennies was started in Charles II's reign.

Although the details of the ceremony have altered with the passage of centuries, and both the washing of feet and the dispensing of "boiled beef, shoulders of mutton and bowls of ale" are things of the past, the central act of this old custom remains unchanged, the observance of the new commandment of Christian charity given on the original Maundy Thursday.

A. S. O.



YEOMAN OF THE GUARD BEARING THE GOLD DISH
CONTAINING THE MAUNDY ALMS

From the Sir J. B. Stone collection of photographs, by permission of the Library Committee, City of Birmingham.

CORRESPONDENCE

WATERLOO BRIDGE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In connection with the new Waterloo Bridge proposals, I wondered whether the following quotation would be of sufficient interest to justify its inclusion in your Correspondence columns. It is taken from a copy of the *Chelmsford Chronicle*, December 29th, 1815.

"... It has been proposed that the new bridge building over the Thames and denominated the Strand Bridge shall henceforward be called Waterloo bridge as being a structure, not only the largest and finest in the world, but the most durable, and in consequence worthy of so distinguished a title. Some ornamental additions may be made by the Government, and a monument to perpetuate that great achievement formed at no very considerable charge to the country; the Strand Bridge, therefore (says a writer upon the subject) shall hereafter be called the Waterloo Bridge, 'so long as the sun shall shine upon it; the Thames flow under it, and one stone of it remain standing upon another.'"

—D. L. STROUD.

A CAPTIVE BAT

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—At noon on March 10th, on a very cold but brilliantly sunny day, a small bat was flying up and down in the stable yard at this farm (West Sussex). It was seemingly no chance flight, for the visitor flew into the dusk of the barn and then out again into the sunlight.

He was landed without damage with the long-handled landing net used for rescuing birds from the fruit enclosure, and temporarily imprisoned in a bird cage.

A live bat in temporary captivity is far rarer than most of us realise. A country-bred boy of sixteen had never "seen one close to, like." The housemaid, nearing thirty, had never seen one at all. Cook fled, and the children were enchanted. The captive was rebellious and very angry, and made, not the traditional, barely audible, high register squeak, but a rasping little shrill growl. Attempts to feed the little anger with pin-head pieces of raw meat were ineffective, so he was set free again. He flew about for a little, hawked down to the surface of the pond, then retired to rest on a sunny portion of the stable roof, where he lay flat, head downward, and performed a careful toilet just like a cat. Then, after a flight or two, he alighted on the roof again and crept into the loft under a small gap in the tiles.

It was apparently the common bat or pipistrelle, but its daylight appearance suggests an unusual personality.—HUGH B. C. POLLARD.

A RAT'S ESCAPE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—My cocker came to me in the drawing-room in a great state of excitement and, having



TREED IN THE PAMPAS GRASS

attracted my attention, danced off to the hall door, looking greedily at the handle.

I let her out, and a second later she had "treed" a rat up one of the flower stems of the pampas grass which grows in front of the house. She had seen the rat from the window seat, which is her special coign of vantage.

The rat was swaying in the wind at least seven feet above the ground. The cocker had not seen him go aloft, so I slipped in for my camera and made two exposures before showing Jess her rat. A few wild leaps, and down he came into the thick centre of the pampas clump. A wild hunt followed, with the inevitable result.—L. LONGFIELD.

THE SWEDISH MATCH BUILDING

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—The tragic death of Ivar Kreuger and the temporary crisis in the affairs of the Swedish Match Corporation invest the Corporation's beautiful building in Stockholm with particular interest. It was completed some five years ago from designs by the celebrated architect Ivar Tengbom, and illustrates aptly the co-ordination of

art and industry characteristic of modern Sweden. With fine discrimination Tengbom fitted the great office block into a discreet block of old residential houses without interrupting their harmony. A dramatic entry between polished granite columns gives into a semicircular courtyard in the centre of which is one of Karl Milles' most fairy-like fountains. The curve of the court, treated with reticence without, within gives an unusual curvilinear plan to the principal rooms, including the board room, which is lined with mural paintings and intarsia.

Throughout the building the metal work, fittings, lifts and so on are treated with the same imaginative delicacy as characterises the façades. Critical though the situation of the Kreuger companies may be, there appears to be no ground for fear that it will not recover; confidence in the business is, in fact, rapidly returning. So this splendid building will, it is to be hoped, continue to exemplify the vision and idealism of a great financier.—P. M.

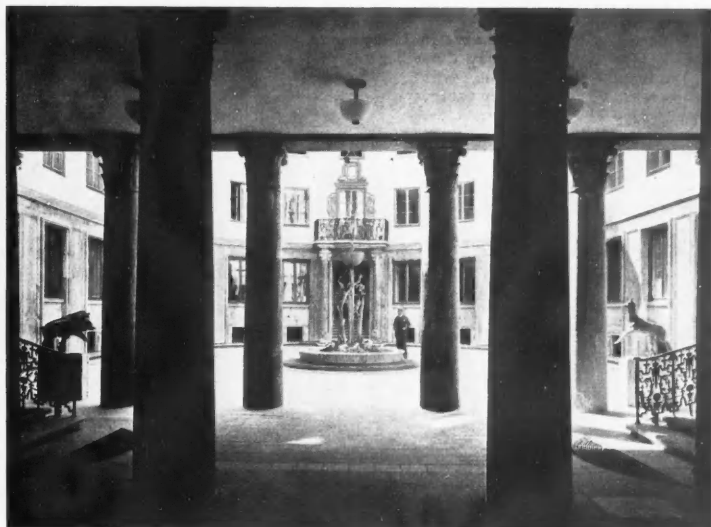
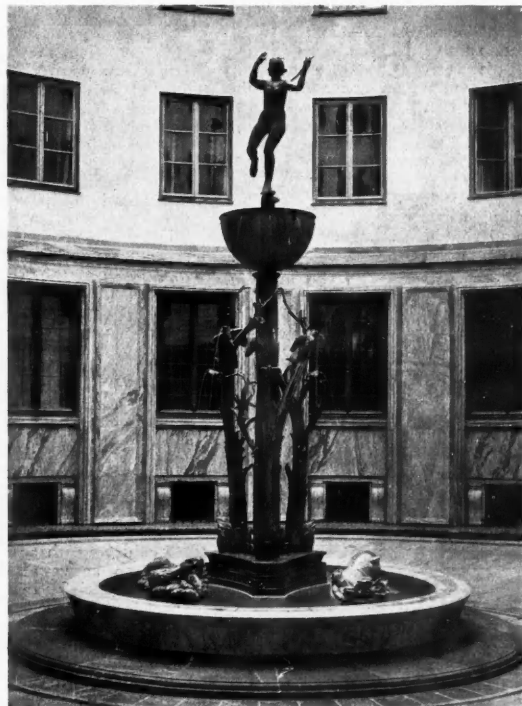
THE HAWFINCH AS A STONE-BREAKER

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In the district of North Kent where I reside, the handsome hawfinch is shot at sight owing to alleged depredations in the orchards and fruit plantations, and where, as a nesting species, it has become exceedingly rare. For several seasons past, during the early days of March, a fine male specimen has found his way into my garden, and I am afraid that the reason for the hitherto mysterious presence so near the house of such an otherwise shy and retiring bird has been overlooked in my enthusiasm at being privileged to entertain such a distinguished visitor.

To-day, March 7th, he made his customary annual return, for, when looking towards the fruit garden early this morning, we saw him busily engaged under a cluster of young Flemish cherry trees, searching for and picking up the stones from the dropped cherries of last year, splitting them with his powerful beak and swallowing the contents with the dexterity of a canary with a hemp-seed.

A pugnacious hen blackbird in quest of nesting material drove him off, but in a few minutes he was back again, this time flying under a thick cluster of bush damsons, where he carried on exactly as he had done under the cherry trees. Altogether, we watched him closely for fully half an hour, his antics being most fascinating, as here and there he would pick up a cherry or damson stone and drop it immediately, not attempting to split it. By our close watch from the window it was possible to locate these stones, which, upon his departure, were collected and broken by us. Every stone that he had ignored was minus a kernel, thus—how did he know? Those shells from the stones which he actually split and from which he obtained a kernel I send you herewith, showing as they do his clean and thorough work.—GEO. J. SCHOLEY.



THE SWEDISH MATCH BUILDING AT STOCKHOLM

The Milles Fountain in the court

The entrance to the courtyard

"HOW AN INVALID READ THE WIND"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—It may interest your correspondent and other readers to know that exactly the same type of "wind-clock" as that shown in the photograph reproduced in your issue of March 12th, is to be found at Hatherop Castle in Gloucestershire, where it was put up by my grandfather, the late Sir Thomas Bazley, Bt., a great many years ago. I cannot tell you the exact date, but it was probably in the 'eighties. This, too, is connected by gearing to an ordinary windvane on the tower at a great height above the dial.—E. P. LEACH.

A TREE ON A WALL

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—This photograph shows a Scots fir tree about fifty years old growing from the top of a high wall at Newtimber in Sussex. The roots of the tree penetrate right down through the wall into the ground in order to obtain sufficient moisture and nourishment.

The ground level is the same on both sides of the wall, and it is really surprising that the tree should have remained in this position for so long, for, as is clearly shown in the photograph, the brickwork of the wall



"HUMPTY DUMPTY SAT ON A WALL"

in the vicinity of the tree has become considerably displaced. Note also the silver birch growing from the same wall on the left-hand side of the picture.—H. WILLIAMS.

EASTER IN HUNGARY

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Easter is a merry festival in Hungarian villages. On Easter Monday the village boys go in bands to visit the girls and to sprinkle them with water, as the age-old custom demands. It may derive from pagan times, or it may have something, however remote, to do with the Christian Easter and the idea of being cleansed from sin—purified inside and out—anyway, the origin of the custom is lost in the dim ages, but it lives in the merry-making of young people in Hungary. The more polished youths sprinkle their belles with scented water from a small flask, but the simpler-minded drag the blushing maiden out to the pump or well and splash her in the face with a bucket. This is considered highly complimentary, for it would be a proof that she has no admirers if she remained dry, and the sprinkled one, although she pretends to be indignant, is duly grateful to the sprinklers. As a token of her appreciation she presents every boy who sprinkles her with water with an elaborate

Easter egg. These are often charming products of Hungarian home industry. They are dyed with vegetable colours, and intricate designs are traced on them with the point of a needle, showing up white from the bright-hued background.—B.

THE OLDEST THEATRE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I send you two photographs of the Theatre Royal, Bristol, which I had the privilege to take recently by the courtesy of Mr. Douglas Miller. Considering it is the oldest theatre in England, I feel the subject will interest your readers. Architecturally, the views speak for themselves, showing a building in the style immediately preceding the Adam period, and in historical associations the theatre is also rich, the great actors and actresses of the latter part of the eighteenth century having played there, including Mrs. Siddons in 1779.

The theatre is in King Street, and the foundation stone was laid on November 30th, 1764, James Paty being the architect, Gilbert Davies the builder, Fook the mason and Franklin the smith. After eighteen months' work it was opened on May 30th, 1766, this great venture having been carried through by private enterprise owing to Puritan opposition. Thomas Symmons, a solicitor, and Alexander Edger (Sheriff in 1767 and Mayor in 1787), two influential citizens, obtained the support of forty-eight other persons who subscribed £50 each towards the erection of the theatre, and in return each subscriber received a silver token which entitled him to a seat at one performance of each play produced. A similar arrangement of the use of tokens existed at the Haymarket in those days. A few of the Bristol tokens still exist. The theatre remained unlicensed until 1777, owing to continued Puritan interference, and it was not until Mr. Daubeny, representing the proprietors, was granted a Royal patent in that year (which carried the title "Royal") that the theatre was well established.

That Bristol was intent upon erecting a good theatre is proved by the fact that particulars were obtained of the London theatres before embarking on the one here shown, which, in the end, appears to have been modelled on the lines of old Drury Lane, even to employing "a Mr. Sanders, the ingenious carpenter of that house." But by some error the stage appears to have been planned 8ft. longer than that at Drury Lane! The theatre is constructed entirely of wood internally, and the two galleries carried on the slender fluted Roman Doric columns bear tribute to the quality of the English oak. Its ceiling is of rich design, and the acoustic properties of the building are truly remarkable. It has witnessed many gay seasons and scenes, but like many other places, has fallen a victim to changed conditions.

Unfortunately, the Theatre Royal now finds itself left in a back street, overshadowed by tall warehouses with the ceaseless rumble of passing drays and lorries; while the residential quarter, once at its doors, lies a mile or two away. Nor is this all: a more modern theatre, the Prince's, has been a formidable rival since 1867. It is much to be hoped that the site of the Theatre Royal will not be claimed by some "modern improvement" or the building destroyed or even mutilated, as has been done to its neighbour the old Assembly Rooms. It is certainly a national treasure, and should



A HUNGARIAN EASTER CUSTOM



THE THEATRE ROYAL, BRISTOL, WHERE SIDDONS PLAYED

possess more guardians than the few who can recognise its twofold interest locally.—C. D. RUDING-BRYAN.

"THE UNSEEN ARMY OF GREY SQUIRRELS"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In this village of East Kent we hardly ever see a grey squirrel. At one time the red squirrel was often to be seen, being much in evidence during the season when the chestnuts were ripe. Now they have all vanished, having been either driven away or killed by the grey squirrel. I was speaking to a neighbour a day or two ago, saying how rarely we saw any grey squirrels and quoting the letter in COUNTRY LIFE with the above heading, when she told me the following story: Last year, when the strawberries were ripe, she was much vexed by what she thought were birds pecking the seeds off the ripe fruit, and placed a length of 4ft. wide wire netting over the row, curving it so as to make an effective protection. One afternoon she was away, but left her terrier, a noted ratter, shut in the garden. To her surprise, when she came home, she heard a furious barking and went out to see what was happening. The terrier was trying frantically to get under the wire netting, where two grey squirrels had taken refuge. Three dead ones lay close at hand, showing that the terrier had spent an active afternoon. On the netting being raised he promptly dashed in and killed the two captives one after the other. The whole affair surprised my neighbour, as she had not known that any grey squirrels frequented her garden, nor has she seen any since that day.—PHILLIPPA FRANKLYN.

THE WANDERINGS OF THE TUNNY

SMOOTH, stream-lined body with gleaming rounded flanks, dark, yellow-spotted back, pointed snout and broad tail, this describes the tunny, greatest of the mackerels. This magnificent animal, which sometimes attains a length of ten feet and a weight of one thousand pounds, is the most spectacular inhabitant of the classic Mediterranean Sea. Indeed, the tunny has had as profound an influence on Mediterranean civilisation as the herring has had on that of northern Europe, and the fisheries have persisted with little change in method from the earliest times to the present day.

De Quatrefages, in his *Rambles of a Naturalist on the Coasts of France, Spain and Sicily*, published about the middle of last century, gives a graphic description of the tunny fishery as then practised around the Favignana Islands off the western extremity of Sicily. Unlike the Basque fishermen, who used immense lines with hundreds of hooks, or the Provence men, who employed a type of seine net up to two thousand feet long, the Sicilians caught the tunny in an elaborate and still larger series of nets known as a *madraque*. These extended up to six miles, and consisted of numerous passages all leading into a labyrinth of intercommunicating chambers. These in turn opened into a "chamber of death" or *corpou* at the end of the vast structure. This was secured by strong lines, weighted at one end and supported by floats at the other, and also by anchors.

nothing but violently moving heads, bleeding arms, which rise and fall, and harpoons which flash and cross one another as they are hurled against the victims. All eyes are sparkling, all lips are uttering cries of triumph, clamour and encouragement. The waters of the *corpou* are tinged with blood, and every moment another fish has been hurled across the beam; the dead and dying lie heaped together in such vast multitudes, that the hulls of the boats are almost hidden beneath the load of their half-living cargoes.

Whence came these hosts of mighty fish to this gargantuan massacre? Modern research has justified the theory that the fish congregate and come inshore for spawning when the great fisheries of the Mediterranean and the even greater fishery in the Bay of Cadiz take place. But, after spawning, the fish do wander far in search of food, and make even greater journeys than the minds of the Greeks had any conception. The larger fish, particularly, work their way northward, following the shoals of sardines and mackerel, from which they exact a terrible toll. Later, again, they feed on the herring in the North Sea during the autumn, and they have even been caught in the Baltic and in the far northern waters around Iceland.

Of recent years the study of the migrations of the tunny has been pursued with the greatest care and by most ingenious methods by Dr. Massimo Sells of the Marine Biological Institute at Rovigno in the Istrian Peninsula in the Adriatic. He has made a careful study of the types of hooks used by fishermen



TUNNY FISHING OFF THE WEST COAST OF SICILY

Every year the great quantity of gear needed for the construction of the *madraque* was brought from Palermo in a steamer especially chartered for that purpose.

After the *madraque* had been completed the fishermen came from far and near to the *tomara*, as they called the tunny fishery. The great fish entered the passages leading to the labyrinth, and, once within the latter, were prevented from returning, but impelled relentlessly on to the *corpou* by the closure of the valves behind them. The boats surrounded the *corpou*, and the netting floor of this was slowly raised by ropes wound around capstans. Gradually the imprisoned fish were brought to the surface, those which leapt out being at once speared with the long harpoons of the fishermen. At first they escaped, but gradually their strength ebbed with loss of blood, and they were secured and thrown on board. Meanwhile the net rose nearer and nearer to the surface. The description may now be continued in de Quatrefages' own words:

Now the entire shoal of tunnies is exposed to view. Pressed close to one another, these monster fishes are throwing themselves in despair against the flexible walls of the *corpou*, at one moment showing their black, yellow-spotted backs, at another moment cleaving the surface of the water with their large crescent-shaped fins. Animated by the sight of the victims which lie exposed to their attack, the sailors strike with redoubled force, and the fishing becomes a massacre. One can no longer individualise the separate actors in this drama; the serried crowd seems to be composed of

in various parts of Europe and North Africa, and, from the comparison of hooks recovered from tunnies caught in various places, he has been able to tell something of the previous movements of these fish, and so gradually to reconstruct a picture of their annual habits. In May and June the tunny congregate for spawning in the southern Mediterranean and off the Atlantic coasts of Spain. Then as the summer advances and the autumn comes on they scatter far and wide, as far as Iceland in the north and the Canaries in the south. By the approach of winter they have disappeared from the northern seas, probably working their way southward in deeper water. In the following spring they reappear in vast numbers in the northern Mediterranean and as far north as San Sebastian in Spain, and are apparently feeding voraciously in preparation for the spawning which is soon to follow.

There is a species of tunny differing hardly in anything other than the slightly greater size which it may attain, which is caught off the Atlantic coast of America from Nova Scotia to Cape Hatteras. Dr. Sells thinks it not at all impossible that they are actually Mediterranean fish which have crossed the Atlantic in their summer search for food. But, whether the tunny cross the Atlantic or no, its journeys from its Mediterranean home southward to the fringe of the tropics and northward to the Arctic Circle more than confirm the age-old stories of its mighty wanderings. It is a great ocean wanderer, the supreme example of a migratory fish.

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By PATRICK R. CHALMERS

Illustrated from

Drypoints by Norman Wilkinson

Patrick R. Chalmers is a practical sportsman and land-owner as well as a poet whose verses on sport and rural life are, many of them, classics. "A Fisherman's Angles" gives glimpses of the river and the rod from as many standpoints as the forty sketches which fill the book. Many of Mr. Chalmers's "Angles" are in the form of thumbnail stories, while ten of them take the shape of light verse.

"It is nothing but a compliment to say of Mr. Chalmers's delightful book that it will be treasured as much for Mr. Wilkinson's drypoints as for the author's prose. . . . Both his prose and his verse are written with a very pretty grace and much feeling."
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THE HOUSE FROM THE PLAYING FIELDS

GROVELY MANOR, more familiar to an earlier generation as Boscombe Manor, is one of the many historic estates which of recent years have renewed their youth by being transformed into schools. In some cases the conversion of an old and large building has presented considerable difficulties, but Grovely Manor, both by its character and situation, might appear to have been especially built for the purposes which it now serves. Standing high up on the cliffs overlooking Bournemouth Bay, it has an ideal position. From the windows of the house there is an uninterrupted view across its own lawns and out over the English Channel, while a pine wood, beautifully planted with rhododendrons, secludes the grounds from the houses which have grown up around it.

It was about eighty years ago that Sir Percy Florence Shelley, the son of the poet, bought Boscombe Cottage for his mother. On her death he and his wife decided to make it their home, and here for many years were preserved the Shelley manuscripts and relics. Additions were made to the original house, and a small theatre was built and perfectly equipped, in which plays were produced, many of them written by Sir Percy himself. The Shelleys' circle of friends included many of the most distinguished literary and artistic people of their day. Robert Louis Stevenson, Jowett, Froude, Stopford Brooke and Edward Dowden (Shelley's biographer) were frequent guests, while Tree and many other famous

actors often came down to take the leading parts in the plays produced in the little theatre. These associations have given Grovely Manor a historic interest that few of the younger schools can claim. Under its principal, Miss Gaskins, it has established for itself a reputation as one of the leading girls' schools on the South Coast. Pupils are taken between the age of twelve and nineteen, and there is accommodation for a hundred girls, all of them boarders.

The aim of the principal and of the governors of the school is to combine a thoroughly modern education of a public school type with the comfort and individual care of home life. The members of the staff are highly qualified women with University degrees, and there are a number of visiting teachers for special subjects. Besides the ordinary school course, which includes Scripture, Science, Modern and Classical Languages, Literature, History, Hygiene and Physical

Culture, particular attention is given to Music, Painting and Drawing, while for elder girls there is a special course arranged which takes in Dress-making, Elocution, Book-keeping, Typewriting and Shorthand. The theatre, which has been kept unaltered, is used for concerts and plays, and the library is the fine room with the domed alcove which was designed to receive the Shelley relics. The extensive grounds of the school provide splendid playing fields for games, which are supervised by a specially trained games mistress.

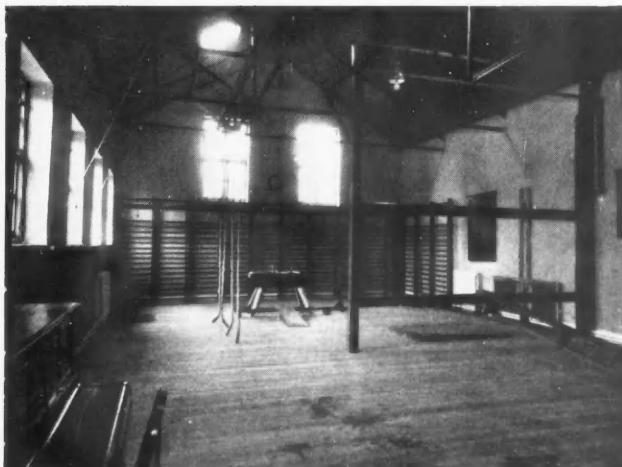


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THE THEATRE OF THE SHELLEYS



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THE ESTATE MARKET

A POET LAUREATE'S HOME

SWINFORD OLD MANOR, which is now to be let by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, lies about two miles from Ashford, in particularly beautiful surroundings, for on its eastern side it has Godinton Park, and on the west the parklands of Hothfield Place. It is approached from the arterial London-Folkestone road by a length of quiet by-road, bordered by some of the magnificent timber trees of Godinton Park, and is thus well away from noise and traffic, although easily accessible.

Alfred Austin, who became Poet Laureate after Tennyson, is now more frequently read for the prose he wrote about Swinford than for his poetry. In "The Garden That I Love" he describes how, after much fruitless house-hunting, he found there exactly what he wanted in a country home—"charm, solitude and some antiquity." The old manor house fulfilled his dreams so perfectly that in return he devoted all his gardening skill to making the grounds a worthy setting for it. The book has sketches of the house and favourite parts of the garden, for many of which the poet, his sister "Veronica" and their friends had special names. "In Veronica's Garden" records the enlargement of the house and small improvements made to the gardens in their maturity. Beside the inherent charm of Swinford, the poet regarded his own efforts, successful as they were, as of little value—"the old Oak, the old Manor-houses, these are two constituents of its beauty no one living called into existence; and, compared with them, and their presiding influence, all I myself have done is hardly worth remembering."

His first glimpse across the adjoining park of the house he had "In desperation come to scrutinise" captivated him: "Even at that instant, and before I had looked on more than its gray stone frontage, almost smothered in creepers up to the very top of its rounded gables, I recognised the haven of my hopes, and the fulfilment of my most fastidious dreams. When I emerged into the Kitchen garden, there before me stood a real old manor house of the end of the fifteenth century. Clearly, the building consisted rather of two houses than of one, built 'back-to-back,' the gray stone tenement, with its greater elevation and ampler pretensions, having been joined on to its older and humbler companion at a later date. I observed with satisfaction that the house looked almost exactly south-east, to my thinking the proper aspect for an English country house. Such an aspect ensures morning cheerfulness all the year round, the full advantage of whatever sun there is in winter practically from dawn to sundown, and the exquisite effects of the rising moon."

"The Garden That I Love" has a dedication dated from "Swinford Old Manor, Mayday, 1894," and shows views of the house and favourite parts of the garden.

LARGE ACREAGES SOLD

ANNOUNCING sales of about 11,500 acres of English land in the last month, Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. mention that other contracts are practically concluded, involving a further extensive area. They have lately effected the sales of 6,000 acres on the Gopsal estate, Leicestershire; the Marbury estate, Cheshire, having a rental of some £9,000

per annum; and 2,150 acres of Fawley Court estate, Henley-on-Thames. Last week they arranged the re-sale of nearly 3,000 acres of the Waresley Park estate, Sandy, Bedfordshire, in one lot. This sale comprises ten farms, two private residences, as well as extensive woodland areas and cottages, and has been purchased for sporting amenity purposes to be attached to an adjoining property. The rest of Waresley Park estate, comprising about 886 acres, and including the mansion and park, three mixed farms, Waresley Wood of 172 acres and the model village of Waresley, is now being prepared for sale by auction.

DUXBURY PARK SOLD

DUXBURY PARK, 550 acres, has been sold by Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff to Chorley Corporation. Duxbury Park is bound up in its associations with that adventurous character around whom Longfellow and others have woven a web of hero-worship. *Captain Myles Standish: His Lost Lands and Lancashire Connections* is the title of a book published in 1920 by the Manchester University Press, from the pen of the Rev. T. C. Porteus, Vicar of St. John the Divine, Coppull. There is at least one place in the United States named Duxbury, in memory of him whose "Courtship" inspired Longfellow. The publishers of elaborate editions of that poem in America have now and then embellished their productions with pictures of Duxbury Park, calling it Standish Park, and have built up a traditional link between the valiant adventurer and the Lancashire seat that is hardly warranted by the claims made by the Captain himself in his will. Large sums of money were subscribed in 1845 in America to provide for the investigation of supposed claims to the property. Standish seems to have been sent out in the Mayflower to defend the emigrants and to instruct them how to take their own part in the unsettled territory on which they landed. Some of the Standish charters are preserved in Wigan Public Library; and one of the early Standish family, Ralph, son of a lord of the manor, is said to have helped in the slaying of Wat Tyler at Smithfield in 1381. The mansion seems to have remained externally unchanged since at least 1846, and it had at that time a herd of deer in the park.

AN ADAM HOUSE OFFERED

IN or about 1770 Mansfield Street was planned by the brothers Adam, and three years later they set to work on the Portland Place scheme. Soon afterwards they were engaged in designing houses for the Earl of Findlater and the Earl of Kerry. There is in existence a ground plan of the district, showing much of the frontage of Mansfield Street, Duchess Street and New Cavendish Street as "built," and a large rectangle in New Cavendish Street as reserved for a mansion for the Earl of Findlater. Close to that spot the brothers Adam built other houses, among them No. 20, New Cavendish Street, which is now to be sold or let furnished by Messrs. Weatherall and Green and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley. The house is a perfect example of the style of the brothers Adam, and it is rich in decorated ceilings, magnificent marble mantelpieces and other architectural and decorative features.

The accommodation is ample for entertaining on a large scale, and the situation of the house, though so central, is quiet. The lease from the Howard de Walden estate for a term expiring in 1969 is at a ground rent of £200 a year. The estate might grant a new lease for 999 years, for a premium.

No author ever had more reason to complain of some passage "torn from its context" than has the owner of a mansion in Portland Place of what has happened to three of his Adam mantelpieces. The house is undergoing renovation, and all was left safe and sound at 8 p.m. When the workmen arrived next morning they were dismayed to find three of the rooms in disorder and the mantelpieces gone. Nobody knows exactly where the market is for these things, but it is known that the connoisseurs who dismantle Adam masterpieces in "the witching hour" seem to want only the jambs, and that these can be carried away in any small car. Of course, the thieves, like all their tribe, seem to delight in wanton damage as well as robbery, and the parts of any mantelpiece which they have to leave *in situ* are generally battered and shattered.

IN AND AROUND BOURNEMOUTH

SALES in February, by Messrs. Fox and Sons, include twenty-eight residences for occupation, the principal being Atherfield, Dean Park Road; Croftmoor, Dean Park Road; Blagdon, McKinley Road; Blenheim Towers, Spa Road, Boscombe; Constantia, Norton Road; and The Beeches, Browning Avenue, Boscombe. Messrs. Fox and Sons also sold land on the Talbot estate, Leybourne estate, Iford estate and at Parkstone. The total sales exceeded £60,000.

A Lanarkshire house, which was for some time the home of General Gordon, is offered by Messrs. Walker, Fraser and Steele, who have been instructed to sell or let unfurnished Harperfield, five miles from Lanark above the Clyde, commanding views to Tinto. The residence is, in parts, some centuries old.

Essex sales by Messrs. Kemsley include 386 acres, Change, Manscross and Brook Farms, Great Yeldham; and New Farm, Theydon Mount, 279 acres, part of the Hill Hall estate, Epping.

Messrs. William Willett have sold Spinneys Ashted, since the auction. They have also successfully dealt with many Hampstead properties through their office at Finchley Road.

Messrs. Hampton and Sons are to sell Thurston End, Hawkedon, between Bury St. Edmunds and Clare, eleven miles from Newmarket. This house typifies domestic architecture of the end of the sixteenth century. It is of oak framing with brick nogging and oak mullioned windows. The principal front displays four overhanging gables, and the house has fine timbered ceilings. A farm of about 150 acres, including a small stream stocked with trout, goes with the house.

The beautiful house on Wandsworth Common, mentioned in the Estate Market page of COUNTRY LIFE on January 23rd, was to have been submitted at the Mart, but was privately sold on the eve of the auction by Messrs. John G. Dean and Co., at a substantial advance on the nominal "upset" price which the owner had placed upon it. **ARBITER.**



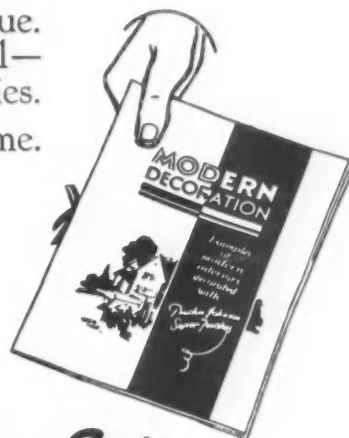
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A reminder

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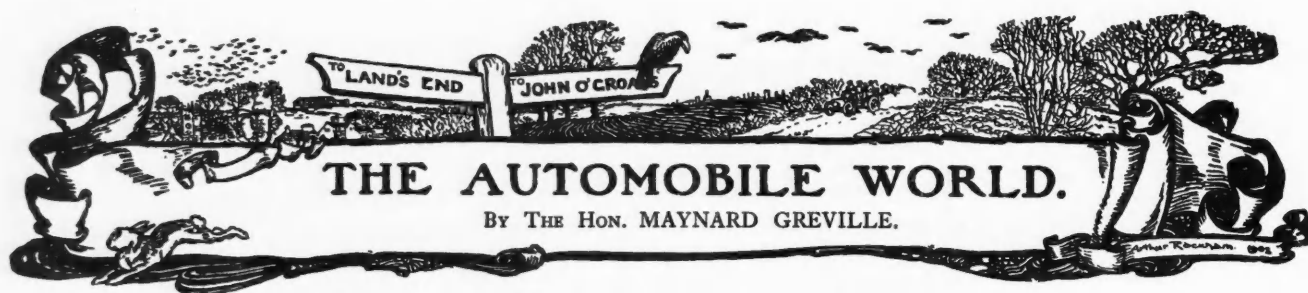
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NEW SPRING CAR MODELS

SOME months ago the manufacturing rights of the A.J.S. firm were taken over by Willys Overland Crossley, and the car is now being made in their 22-acre factory near Manchester.

The new car, which is priced at £229, has the same general appearance as its predecessor, but has been brought up to date in its coachwork and equipment. Two body types only—a three-quarter panel and a half-panel saloon—are being offered, but both are available in several colour combinations.

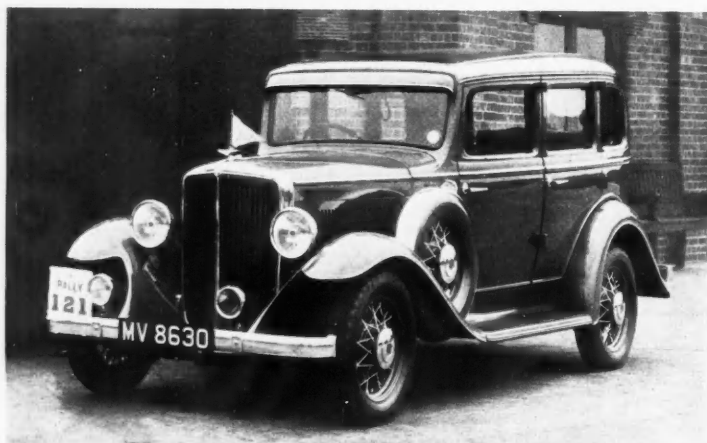
The upholstery is real leather, and has been finished on the doors in an unusual radial design. The wind screen is in one piece and is set at an angle to prevent glare from the head lights of a following car. Neat wells at the rear provide ample leg room for the rear passengers, and there is ample head and elbow room.

The A.J.S. has a four-cylinder engine with side-by-side valves, and has specially constructed combustion chambers which it is claimed make the slow running exceptionally good. The gear box has four speeds forward and reverse, with a "silent third." Long semi-elliptic springs are used with Silentbloc rubber bushes, while the engine is also mounted on rubber.

The bore is 60mm. and the stroke is 90mm., giving the engine a capacity of 1,018 c.c. It is taxed at £9.

THE ESSEX 21 h.p. "PACEMAKER"

Hudson-Essex have introduced an entirely new model,



THE ESSEX "PACEMAKER" SIX

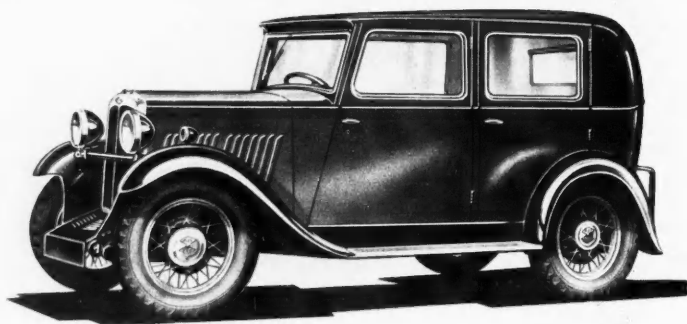
which made its first public appearance in the recent R.A.C. Rally to Torquay and did extremely well. The Pacemaker has been introduced to supplement and not to replace the existing Super-Six Challenger model, which has an engine rated at 18.2 h.p. and which has not been changed in any respect.

The prices of the new model bring Essex into a higher priced field than they have ever occupied before, as the Pacemaker ranges from £355 to £415.

The six-cylinder engine employs side valves and is entirely mounted on rubber. The bore is 74.6mm. and the stroke is 120.7mm., bringing the capacity to 3,100 c.c. It is claimed that it develops 70 b.h.p. at 3,200 r.p.m.

The sparking plugs are situated over the exhaust valves. The crank shaft is of the three-bearing type, and a vibration damper is fitted. The cylinder head is of curious design, and it includes what is termed a compression power dome. By this the relatively cool incoming gas from the inlet valves is led over the exhaust valves, so cooling these valves and heating the mixture. Roller valve tappets are used, while the cam shaft is carried in three bearings.

The circulation system for the lubricating oil is also of a novel type. The pump has no springs or valves and simply consists of a crank and plunger. The oil is forced to both ends of the engine by alternate strokes, and it is claimed that this helps to keep down the oil temperature. Further cooling is given to the



THE NEW A.J.S. NINE

oil, however, as on its return it is forced to pass through a special passage at the base of the sump and at its coolest point.

Aluminium alloy pistons are used, and the fuel is supplied from an ample rear tank to a pump type carburettor.

What is known as the Startix device is incorporated in the standard equipment. This ensures that should the engine stop at any time with the switch on it will be started again instantly and automatically. This is of particular value, as a free-wheel is fitted to this car. This free-wheel is brought into or put out of action by simply depressing a button on the top of the gear lever.

The gear box is of the synchro-mesh type, ensuring a silent and easy change.

The clutch is a single plate with cork inserts, and is lubricated; while the suspension is by semi-elliptic springs fore and aft. Hydraulic two-way shock absorbers are fitted to both axles, and are adjustable.

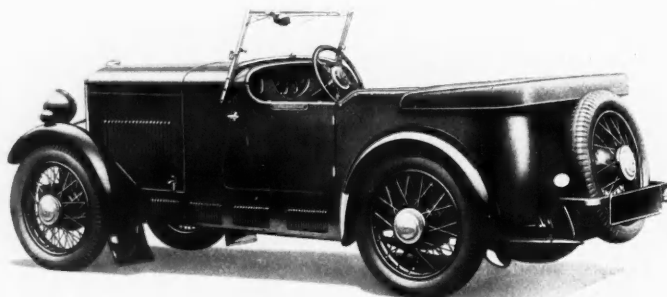
The frame is of entirely new design and is extremely robust, as, in addition to cross members of the usual type, there is an X-shaped member in the centre.

The radiator is very distinctive and is of the V type; while in front of the chromium-plated shell there is a grille. Eight body styles are available, which include a four-door four-five-seater town sedan at £380, and a four-door six-light standard sedan at £385.

A SPORTING FOUR-SEATER TRIUMPH

The Triumph Company have recently introduced a smart sporting small car which is known as the Southern Cross.

The engine is a 9 h.p. overhead valve four-cylinder of the type used in the Super Nine car, taxed at £9. The chassis is longer than that of the 9 h.p. saloon, and this allows four adults to be carried in comfort. The wind screen can be folded forward when not required, and two wind-screen wipers are provided. The brakes are hydraulic, and there is a four-speed gear box; while the 9-gallon petrol tank is mounted at the back. It is claimed that the car is capable of speeds approaching 70 m.p.h.



THE TRIUMPH SUPER NINE "SOUTHERN CROSS"
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What? will I come
and dine tonight?



Why certainly——



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JOHNNIE WALKER

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LEARNING TO FLY.—VII

By MAJOR OLIVER STEWART

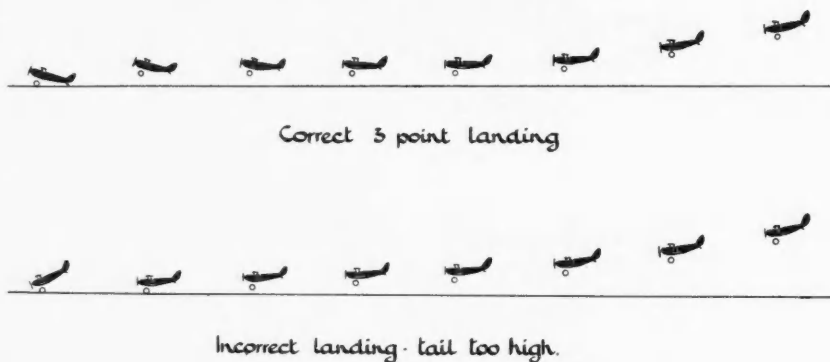
AFTER making the approach to the aerodrome in the manner described in my last article, the pilot will come to the actual landing. Landing is usually regarded as one of the most difficult manoeuvres in flying, and it is to landing that most of the instructional time is devoted.

It is worth defining a perfect landing at the outset because even experienced pilots, although they may be making good landings all day long, exhibit some doubt about the way they do it and are often unable to describe what happens succinctly.

In a perfect landing the aircraft describes a curve tangential to the surface of the ground, the landing taking place at the point of contact.

The machine, approaching in a gentle glide and facing exactly into wind, gradually flattens out, curving more and more as it glides down closer and closer to the landing surface, until it is floating along with its landing wheels a few inches from the grass. When it has arrived at this height the pilot tries to keep it there. He holds it off as long as he can. But the engine is throttled down and the aircraft is no longer gliding (the equivalent of running down hill) so that the speed is falling.

In a few moments the speed has fallen so low that the wings no longer produce



Incorrect landing - tail too high.

the required lift. By then the nose of the machine will be pointing up because the pilot will have been holding the aircraft off and in so doing will have made it adopt a nose-up attitude. The machine sinks on to the grass, tail skid and wheels together, and runs to a standstill.

Landing, therefore, may be said to consist in placing the aircraft close to the ground and in holding it there while the speed dissipates and it *lands itself*.

PILOT'S ACTIONS

In making the landing the pilot watches the ground some way ahead of the machine, and eases the control stick farther and farther back as the machine approaches the ground more and more closely. When the machine is coasting along close to the ground he will still be easing the stick back, making up as long as he can for the falling speed.

The machine itself decides the precise moment of contact, and not the pilot. If the

surface of aerodromes were perfect and the landing perfect there would be no shock at that moment of contact. In practical everyday conditions, however, there is sometimes a slight bump; but the machine should not—unless it hits a molehill or some similar obstruction—leave the ground again after its wheels have touched.

The commonest faults in landing are misjudgment of height in flattening out and “pump handling.” The pupil flattens out too soon, when the machine will drop on to the ground from perhaps 10 ft. or higher with a considerable bump, or else he flattens out too late, when the wheels and undercarriage receive a severe shock and throw the machine up into the air again. “Pump handling” consists of moving the stick backwards and forwards while making the landing and is a sign of uncertainty of judgment.

It is rather a curious fact that pupils making their first solo flights almost invariably make perfect landings. Afterwards they begin to make errors, but it is extremely rare nowadays, with such thorough instruction, for any pupil to make so bad a landing that the machine itself is damaged, and it is still rarer for the landing to be so bad as to introduce the slightest risk to its occupants.

THE FIRST EGGS

THE pheasant has no fixed date for laying, but I always expect the first egg about March 20th to 22nd, and, as it is a first attempt, it is probably better to put a pencil mark on it and leave it as a nest egg than to include it among those lifted for hatching. As a matter of fact, I am not a great believer in very early eggs unless they are collected under game farm conditions, when a round is made of the pens at such short intervals that risk of chill is eliminated. In the ordinary keeper's aviary the danger of partly frosted eggs is a very real one, and sometimes eggs are stowed in a draughty outhouse and a sudden night frost will spoil a very high proportion of them.

The effect of frost on eggs is to cause a number of partial developments or dead-in-shell casualties. The exact mechanism of injury is not quite clear. It may be that the viability of the germ is lessened, but there are some indications that frosting causes a loss of vitality in the frosted area and that the proper course of cell differentiation is interfered with and the chicks die in the second week of development.

The ordinary sharp ground frost is quite enough to cause damage, and an egg in an exposed position suffers badly when there is both frost and a freezing wind. March often leaves us with a cold finish, and there is often another bad spell at the end of the second week of April.

If eggs are dated as brought in and a record of weather is kept, a very clear correspondence between frost chills and dead-in-shell chicks can be traced. The only practicable remedy is an early-rising keeper and frequent visits to the pens. In addition we can wisely furnish rather more nest cover than is usual. Very often pens are bare except for a little very exiguous cover of an upturned fir branch. The birds

often lay in the corners of the pen or in the wind shelter of a water pan or any other available object. They will not nest with the obedience of a poultry hen—but they will often avail themselves of better wind shelter for the nest if it is available.

Last year many people set their own eggs from penned birds, and the results were, in many cases, not satisfactory. Frost was probably responsible for a very large percentage of the failures, but other factors also occur. The feed of laying hen pheasants is all too frequently “a little corn”; it is usually a corn mixture with a proportion of maize and, except on well run game farms, it is hardly ever a properly balanced mash feed with a little cod liver oil in it.

Proper feed for laying pheasant hens is well worth while, and a well balanced mash means not only more eggs, but many more hatchable eggs.

Even a grain feed into which cod liver oil is stirred is better than the traditional “little corn,” and the small additional cost (a can of veterinary cod liver oil costs about 10s.) is amply repaid, for there is nothing so disheartening and costly in time and labour as a bad hatch from weak eggs.

Oyster shell and also grit should be available in every pen, and a little common salt sprinkled over the food occasionally is a useful precaution. It may seem unnecessary to give the birds such a wide range of ingredients, but it must be remembered that they are temporarily prisoners and do not get the wide range of feed which wild birds are able to obtain.

The average clutch of wild eggs is far less reliable so far as hatching is concerned, and a full early nest is nearly always disappointing. Often the eggs are frosted, and usually some are clear and unfertile. Later wild nests are rather better, but out of a hundred it is unusual to hatch more

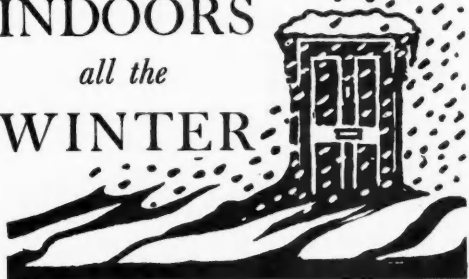
than fifty. As time lost cannot be regained, wild eggs are easily the dearest source of supply. A well run small aviary is good on a small shoot, but it has to be very well run to make it really reliable, and, in spite of a good deal of talk, it is very seldom that home-penned eggs equal the best game farm eggs.

In the long run it is doubtful if they are really much, if any, cheaper, for birds have to be fed, the eggs come in sequences, and the time and extra labour involved on the rearing field work are very much prolonged. In addition, the early setting of a large quantity of eggs means that the birds will, with good luck, be sufficiently grown to resist many of the late summer epidemics which would be fatal to smaller birds. The bigger the birds the more likely they are to get over attacks of gapes.

The most important economy is to rear birds quickly and cheaply, with the minimum loss of time and labour. A thousand game farm eggs and the employment of an extra man for three or four months is certainly cheaper than keeping an extra assistant keeper permanently on the staff in order to produce the same egg output over a longer period. Admittedly the needs of economy are pressing, but it is unsound to allow shoots, any more than land, to go out of cultivation. Where a reduction is necessary it can be best met by rearing a moderate quantity of birds in a shorter time and with temporary extra labour; but with the hazards of the rearing season in front of us economy in eggs is likely to be expensive. Conditions already show signs of improvement, and it is better to have plenty of birds and, if necessary, economise later on shooting days and ways than to raise an inadequate number with hardly any real reduction in the overhead costs for time and labour.

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THE SOUTH-WEST COAST OF ENGLAND

NO coast in Europe, with the possible exception of a strip of the southern shore of the Baltic, and the French-Italian Rivières between Hyères and Genoa, possesses so many delightful seaside resorts as the long coastline from Bournemouth to the Lizard Point. There are, of course, many other places to the eastward, but of them Eastbourne, Folkestone and the Isle of Wight have been recently described and illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE. Bournemouth itself, with its neighbour Boscombe, are well known and deservedly popular resorts. The scenery is enchanting and delightfully varied. There are pine-clad cliffs, picturesque chines, beautiful parks and gardens, fragrant pine woods and open moors, while in the immediate neighbourhood is the ever charming New Forest. The great charm of Bournemouth is that there is always something to do. The new Municipal Pavilion, which was opened a year of so ago, houses that orchestra which, under the leadership of Sir Dan Godfrey, has become world-famous. There are, too, wonderful golfing facilities, Meyrick and Queen's Parks being both excellent eighteen-hole courses, while eight miles away is the fine links of the Dorset Golf Club, distinctly reminiscent of Sunningdale. After crossing into the adjacent county of Dorset, one reaches the pretty little town of Swanage nestling around a small bay between two guardian headlands, Ballard Down and Peveril Point. In every direction there are lovely walks over rambling country. Dorset's chief watering place is, of course, Weymouth, once a favourite resort of King George III. The esplanade extends for two miles round the beautiful bay, while in the neighbourhood are Portland, reached by the ill-starred Chesil Beach; Abbotsbury; and charming Lulworth Cove. To the west lies Lyme Regis, a delightful little town with quaint streets and a tiny pier. Sheltered by hills which rise to a height of nearly 600ft., it is a veritable sun-trap.

GLORIOUS DEVON

Almost immediately upon crossing from Dorset into Devon one comes to the first of that chain of seaside places which have made the latter county so famous. Sidmouth, tucked away in a vast natural basin, rightly claims to be one of the most sheltered spots in the county. Exmouth is another pleasant little place, situated in the wide mouth of the River Exe, and there are

few more enchanting walks in the county than that from Exmouth along the cliffs to Budleigh Salterton. Torquay, most famous of Devon resorts, is, even in winter, a Paradise of flowers and exotic plants. Torbay, in whose centre the town stands, forms a wide semicircle broken by smaller bays and inlets. Here, alternating with bold limestone cliffs, are headlands of red sandstone, while beaches of pebbles are succeeded by firm and extensive sands. To the east Hope's Nose juts out into the sea; while westward, the coast curves round to the high promontory of Berry Head. There are many delightful walks in Torquay, one of the favourite ones being that along the cliff path known as Bishop's Walk, which ultimately leads to Anstey's Cove, a deep gorge bounded on either side by towering cliffs. Just beyond it is the deepcombe known as Babbacombe Bay, on whose shore is a village which claims to be the most beautifully situated in England. There are other pleasing resorts to the westward of Torquay. Brixham, still a thriving fishing town with narrow streets connected by flights of steps; Dartmouth, a lovely little town dreaming on the banks of the emerald Dart, up which you may wander until you find yourself on wild and incomparable Dartmoor; and Plymouth, with its Hoe commanding a wonderful panorama of the Sound and Hamoaze, on which are constantly passing battleships, ocean-going liners, yachts and picturesque fishing smacks.

THE DELECTABLE DUCHY

The River Tamar is generally thought of as a Devon stream, but it has its Cornish side, and it is on that side, on a high hill above the river, that lovely Cotehele stands, the home of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, a great house of granite in which have been preserved tapestries, weapons and furniture as they were in the reign of Henry VIII.

On the way westward one may find Looe, Polperro, and Fowey, the Dartmouth of Cornwall. Falmouth, farther to the west, has a wonderful land-locked harbour which is as imposing as Plymouth Sound and far more picturesque. Into the harbour flows the River Fal, which Cornishmen always maintain is more beautiful than its Devon rival, the Dart. On its banks are many beautiful spots, among them being St. Antony-in-Roseland, in a setting of geraniums and fuchsias; St. Just, with a fifteenth century church hidden among the trees; Mylor, in whose churchyard is the largest of the Cornish crosses; St. Feock, a tiny village whose church has a detached belfry like an Italian campanile; and Tregothnan, the seat of Lord Falmouth, commanding exquisite views of the river running between its tree-clad banks. From Falmouth one may drive over the moors to Lizard Point, near which is the delightful little hamlet of Landewednack, which contains a beautiful old pinnacled church, the most southerly of all English churches. Beyond the Lizard, with its magnificent cliffs and bold headlands jutting out into the sea, lies Kynance Cove, with caves of red and green serpentine and isolated jagged rocks. On the road to Penzance and the Land's End is Marazion, opposite which is St. Michael's Mount, the most fairy-like of all English castles. A vast crag, rising some 230ft. above the sea, is crowned by a pinnacled building which has figured largely in history. It is extremely beautiful, and especially so at night, when it rises mysterious from the sea, its topmost pinnacles illumined by the harvest moon.

TRAVEL NOTES

THE G.W.R. maintains an ample service between Paddington and Bournemouth, Torquay and the chief Cornish resorts.

Steamers leave Penzance for the Scilly Isles at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and return from St. Mary's on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. Fare either way, 10s.

Golfers will find excellent facilities for the game in the south-west. The Bournemouth courses have been mentioned above, and there are other links at Bridport, Lyme Regis and Weymouth. In South Devon there are eighteen-hole courses at Dawlish, Kingsbridge, Teignmouth, Budleigh Salterton, Torquay and Plymouth. On the coast of South Cornwall there are numerous links, e.g., at Falmouth, Fowey, Whitesand Bay and Helston, on the Lizard peninsula.



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FLOWER GARDEN NOTES

THE adenophoras, distinguished from campanulas only by slight botanical differences, comprise a number of species which deserve a wider recognition than they have yet received. Hardy perennials with a stature of anything between 12 ins. and 4 ft., they present all the grace of the best of woodland bellflowers in many attractive shades of blue. During the last few years several new species have come in, mainly from China. One of the best of these is *A. Bulleyana*, which, from a tuft of bright green leaves, raises a sheaf of elegant, finely tapered flower stems to a height of some twenty inches. These stems open their bell-shaped flowers, which are a clear and luminous harebell-blue, in early summer, and a succession is well maintained until autumn. Like the rest of the family, this adenophora will thrive in any average loam. It does not resent shade, but is better with some direct sun, and under such conditions it proves a happy, long-lived plant which needs no cultural attention. The fact that adenophoras do not move well from the open ground when full grown may have had its effect in checking a popularity which is certainly their due. But as they are easily raised from seed and young plants move without a complaint, there should be no difficulty in securing a stock. N. W.

A FINE WOODLAND SAXIFRAGE

FOR associating with ferns in shady woodland retreats there is no better saxifrage than *S. rotundifolia*. This is a common object in wooded alpine ravines and one frequently seen in gardens, but it is not used as often as it might be as a woodland or waterside plant. In such places it is in every way admirable, adding to its delicate charm the virtue of taking care of itself and naturalising by seed. There are many forms of this species, some of them named, and the plant will often vary somewhat from seed. But the typical *S. rotundifolia* makes a bold tuft of fleshy, bright green, kidney-shaped leaves with lobed margins. In early summer and during most of the season branching flower stems are put up to a height of 18 ins. to 24 ins. Slender and supremely elegant, they break into a veritable constellation of white stars more or less freckled with pink. Not a long-lived perennial, *S. rotundifolia* often dies after flowering profusely, but with me it has never failed to provide a sufficiency of seedlings. J.

A ROCK GARDEN HONEYSUCKLE

DIMINUTIVE honeysuckles suitable for rock gardens are uncommon, but *Lonicera pyrenaica* is an excellent little shrub for that purpose and one of peculiar charm. A native of the Pyrenees, *L. pyrenaica* is a deciduous shrub of erect, twiggy habit. It does not often attain 2 ft. in height and takes years to achieve that. The narrow, blunt-pointed leaves are pea green, and in their axils during May and June flowers appear in succession. These



LONICERA PYRENAICA

A fine dwarf honeysuckle for the rock garden

blossoms, borne in pairs, are bell shaped and of a warm ivory white flushed with rose. They are well over 1 in. across at the mouth of the corolla, swing gracefully on their long stalks and are so fragrant that their delicious scent is manifest at a considerable distance. Nor is that all, for during the late summer and autumn the little bush carries a crop of berries which ripen from a rich orange to a coral red. This delightful honeysuckle is quite hardy. It will prosper under average rock garden conditions, but should be given a free, gritty or stony soil with all possible sun. A. T.

LAWN REQUISITES

THOSE interested in the upkeep of lawns, or responsible for the management of sports grounds and golf courses, will find two catalogues issued by the well known firm of Messrs. H. Patisson and Co. of Stanmore, Middlesex, full of most helpful information. They provide a valuable guide to the equipment necessary for the renovation and upkeep of large stretches of grass, and illustrate how remarkable has been the improvements in lawn tools and machines during the last few years. For the most part the machine has displaced hand or horse labour, with the result that the work is both more efficiently and economically done. Their booklet on



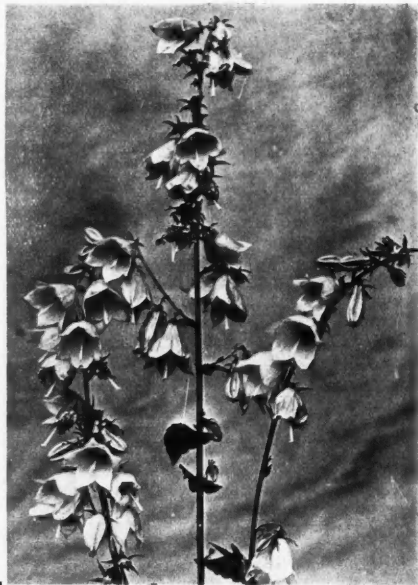
SAXIFRAGA ROTUNDIFOLIA

A charming woodlander

golf course requisites will be found invaluable for reference purposes. In it are described all the various kinds of spades and forks, turfing and edging tools, turf renovators and repairers, special implements for weeding, mechanical lawn sprinklers, lawn mowers, rollers and motor tractors for use on large areas. Their "Sarel" patent spiked roller is worthy of special attention. Its use is to be recommended on all lawns and playing greens, for it is most beneficial to the finer grasses composing a good quality turf, aerating the surface and improving the drainage. On heavy soil, where there is a tendency for the lawn to have a hard and firm surface, it is of distinct benefit. It prevents the formation of moss that, in many cases, is due to defective surface drainage, and allows dressings of artificial fertilisers to penetrate more deeply, ensuring more rapid and beneficial results. The second guide deals chiefly with tractors, rollers and mowers. Each machine is described in detail and illustrated, and those troubled with bad surface drainage will be interested in the detailed description of mole drainage. We would recommend these catalogues to the attention of all gardeners responsible for the upkeep of extensive lawns, and all greenkeepers and groundsmen.

VEGETABLES FOR THE EPICURE

THOSE who are fond of good vegetables and good cooking will find interest and guidance in a booklet issued by Messrs. George Bunyard and Co., Maidstone, called *Vegetables for Epicures*, with an Introduction by M. Marcel Boulestin, who is well known to our readers. It is one of our peculiarities that, while we



AN ATTRACTIVE BELLFLOWER *Adenophora Bulleyana* with bell-shaped flowers of a clear blue

excel in the cultivation of vegetables, yet our choice of varieties is done almost carelessly, without regard to quality, and our use of vegetables is deplorable. It is essential, in the first place, to select and grow only the best varieties that are suited for cooking purposes and special dishes, and secondly, to use them at the proper time and cook them with appropriate care and caution. Messrs. Bunyards' booklet, for which they deserve congratulation and thanks, should do much to encourage a better appreciation and use of vegetables, and all epicures would be well advised to obtain a copy.

A small booklet, entitled *Chemistry in the Garden*—published by Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward, Limited, 51, Newland, Lincoln, whose Eureka weed killer, soil dressings, insecticides and other garden necessities are so well known—contains much useful information on soil cultivation and questions of fertility. Tabulated lists give particulars of fertilisers to use with certain plants and the rate of application; and the insect pests and fungus diseases affecting various plants and the appropriate remedies to apply for their control. Reference is also made to their lawn dressings and to their soil fumigant, called "Soilfume," which is a non-poisonous fumigant that destroys all pests, such as wireworms and leatherjackets, infesting the soil. Washes for fruit tree spraying are also dealt with. A copy will be sent on application to Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward.

DAFFODIL SHOW DINNER

IT will be remembered that last year a very successful dinner was held in connection with the Royal Horticultural Society's Daffodil Show, and at the end of the evening it was unanimously resolved that the function should be made an annual event. An organising committee has accordingly made arrangements for a similar dinner to be held in the restaurant of the Royal Horticultural Society's New Hall in Greycoat Street, Westminster, on the evening of the first day of the Daffodil Show, Thursday, April 14th. Morning dress will be worn, and the price of tickets will be 7s. Tickets may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Daffodil Show Dinner Committee, c/o The Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W.1.

THE INVESTIGATION OF ROSE DISEASES

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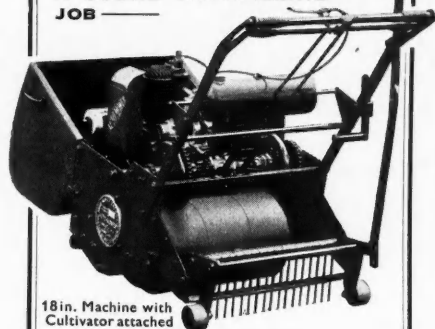
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THE LADIES' FIELD

The Bridesmaids of April and May

DRESSES for a spring or summer wedding should be as light and dainty and picturesque as though life was the land of Arcady and the sun was always shining. One pictures the spring bride as being as beautiful as a fairy princess and the spring bridesmaids as youth personified; and, consequently, the choice of a *toilette* should invariably strike the youthful as well as the flower-like note.

WHITE AND SILVER

The lovely gown shown on this page, one that would be ideal for a girl of seventeen or eighteen, is from Woollands Brothers, Knightsbridge, S.W.1, and is just what one would like to choose for the bridal *cortège*. It is of white satin and tulle, encrusted with lace and worked in branching sprays of satin ribbon, with a deep cape over the shoulders and arms and a little gathered cap which fits as closely as a baby's bonnet and makes the most becoming of frames to a young face. The whole gown has that "picture" quality which is so attractive for a bridal *cortège*, and with a white bride in a long, mediæval gown, the skirt falling in rich folds, the crisp, full skirts of the bridesmaids' frocks would make a most delightful contrast.

The spring colours of white, green and golden yellow are charming for a bridesmaid at this time of the year, and I saw some frocks recently, designed for some five or six bridesmaids, in pure white Georgette, the flounces piped with pale leaf green, while the little coats, which reached just to the waist and were fastened to the sash belts at the back, were of leaf green taffetas—a very tender young green like the first appearance of the polished green leaf buds before they have uncurled. These tiny coats, which were studded with round silver buttons, were trimmed with little stiff pleated flounces and had deep cape collars edged with the same. Big poke bonnets of white crinoline, trimmed with green velvet and tight little round bunches of celandine and field daisies, completed the scheme, the ages of the bridesmaids all being somewhere between seventeen and twenty. Daffodil yellow is also charming for a spring wedding; while for a long train of *filles d'honneur* all the crocus shades of pale mauve, deep purple, white and golden yellow might be worked into a very charming and effective scheme.

BOTTICELLI CAPS

And even supposing the flower

schemes are abandoned, there are hundreds of beautiful colour schemes which might be adopted. In my own opinion the prettiest bridesmaids' frocks are angle length or slightly above, as they look better than the long skirt when the bride wears a sweeping train. Geranium satin capes worked in silver *passementerie*, with dresses of white tulle finished with geranium-coloured sashes, made a pretty scheme, which was completed by Botticelli caps of the same satin with an all-over design of the silver *passementerie*. As in the case of a bride's *trousseau*, the modern dressmaker always makes a point of introducing the very latest vagaries of fashion into the bridesmaids' *toilettes*—unless, of course, they are of the "picture" description, in which case fashion is entirely given the "go-by."

SPRING SHOPPING

The woman who shops at the Galleries Lafayette, Limited, 188-196, Regent Street, W.1, is always sure to be right in the van of fashion. The catalogue of spring fashions issued by this firm is an excellent brochure, the dresses, suits, millinery and other items chosen for illustration being thoroughly representative and really amazing as regards prices, while there are likewise some illustrations of table cloths, sheets, materials and the new

materials, all of which give one an idea of the excellence of everything prepared for the interest and convenience of the spring shopper.

WHEN IT RAINS

How amazed our great grandmothers would be if they could only see our wet weather wear to-day. The thought occurred to me when I was examining the wonderful waterproofs and weather-coats which the Dunlop Rubber Company Limited, were showing recently at 55, Great Marlborough Street, W.1, during their Mannequin Parade. Their mackintoshes are from 21s. to 69s. 9d., and you can have them covered with artificial silk or with satin marocain, corduroy velvet or other materials, and in practically all colours as well as black or white; while they are dainty enough to slip on over an Ascot frock and yet retain an absolutely *soigné* appearance. All of them are proofed by an exclusive process. Then for country wear there is the delightfully business-like weatherproof coat, double-breasted and lined with a proofed plaid material, which is just the right accompaniment for it.

KATHLEEN M. BARROW.



Joan Craven

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["Country Life" Crossword No. 113 will be found on page xx. of this issue

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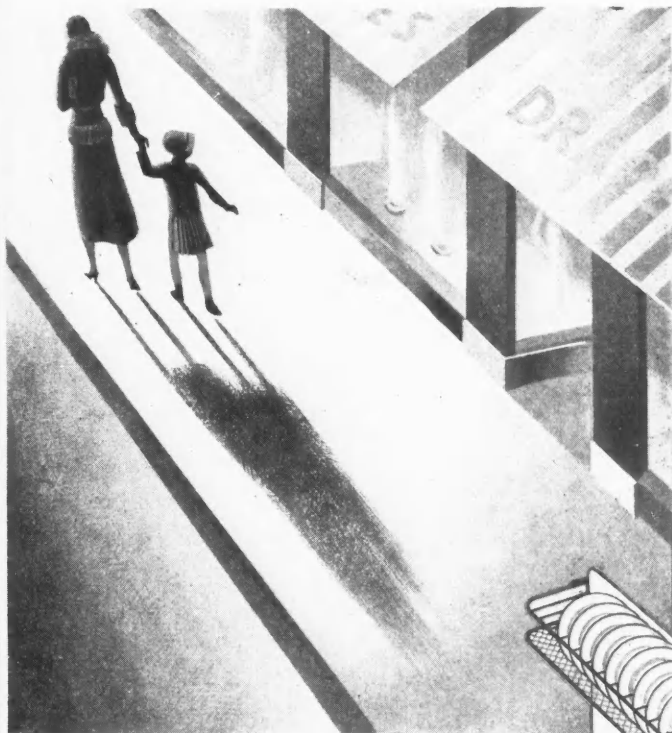
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